



positive and negative environmental impacts associated with

silk

Silk is a natural fiber derived from the silk worm.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• rapidly-renewable resource• fiber is used in least-processed state• can grow with virtually no insecticides and fertilizers• wild (tussah) silk production involves minimal interference with nature• naturally flame retardant• reusable and biodegradable
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• no local sources available for commercial use• commercially available cultivated silk is resource intensive as atmospheres are controlled and rigid growth conditions are employed• extraction of the fibers by steaming kills the silk chrysalis• the cleaning process involves chemicals and the polluted waste water is usually discharged to the ground water