

Agricultural Water Management and Economics

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Abstract

Irrigation is most important input in crop production. The productivity, equity and reliability of irrigation may vary across the systems of irrigation. The management of the systems is largely influenced by the socio economic conditions prevailing in the commands of respective systems and the institutions involved in management. In this paper, some aspects of agricultural water management and water pricing have been dealt. Some related aspects like irrigation returns, economics of amelioration, impact of drainage system and integrated water resource management through Pani Panchayats have been described and discussed with respect to agricultural production and productivity. It has been emphasized that scientific water management is essential for sustainable agricultural production and productivity. The pricing of irrigation water follows the principle of basic economics dealing with resource allocation. Cost of supply of water and potential benefits from the use of irrigation water forms the base of pricing.

Keywords: Water Management, Irrigation returns, Economics of amelioration, Drainage system, Pani Panchayat