

Rainwater Harvesting to Meet the Needs of Rural and Urban India

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Abstract

Water is a scarce and precious input for agriculture. Rainfall, a stochastic hydrologic event is the prime source of water for various purposes. Steps are to be taken for efficient collection, conservation and utilisation of rainwater through *in-situ* and *ex-situ* water harvesting and following efficient crop management practices. Attempts are needed for intensifying ground water survey, exploration, estimation and utilisation, ground water recharge, harnessing alternative energy source to extract ground water and conjunctive use of ground and surface water in command areas to rectify water scarcity at tail ends and water logging in head reach. Multiple uses of water bodies through integrated farming system will improve total water productivity.

Key words: In- situ water harvesting, ex- situ water harvesting, roof water harvesting