

Impact of watershed development programmes on farmers of central U.P.

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ABSTRACT : There are different extension agencies which provide required support in knowledge and essential guidance regarding conservation of rainwater for future use to the farmers. Farmer's are in touch with these agencies for the sake of conserving surface water as well as soil from degradation. There was significant and positive increase in the status of plantation in the watershed area. It was highest in case of farmer having more than 15 plants during pre-project period. Cow rearers possess more numbers of these animals as a result of watershed development programme. Similar findings were reported in case of buffaloes and goats during the project period. It was similar in case of desi and improved breeds of cows and buffaloes. Production of cows, buffaloes and goats were increased during the project period. There was significant increase in production of major field crops of Kharif and Rabi season.

Key Words : Watershed development programme, people's participation, plantation, rainwater harvesting, yield of rabi and kharif crops, productivity of desi or indigenous livestock and improved breed livestock.

Table-1: Status of plantation during pre and post watershed programme period.

S. No.	No. of Plants	Pre-project period No (%)	Post-project period No (%)	Increase (+) or decrease (-) (%)
1.	0-10	80(50.00)	50(31.25)	37.50 (-)
2.	10-15	48(30.00)	60(37.50)	25.00(+)
3.	Above 15	32(20.00)	50(31.25)	56.25(+)
Total		160	160	