Auxiliary Water Storage Ponds for Integrated Farming



Integrated farming systems involving remunerative diversified field crops using auxiliary tank-cum-well system



RELEVANCE

- Construction of auxiliary water storage ponds and dug-wells to conserve and recycle runoff, seepage, rainwater, and groundwater in a canal command ensures pond-based integrated farming systems.
- Auxiliary tank-cum-well system has the potential to improve the livelihood of farmers through multi-enterprise systems.

DESCRIPTION

- Conjunctive use of water facilitated alternate cropping systems *viz.* rice + (fish in pond)-sweet corn, rice + (fish in pond)-sunflower, rice + (fish in pond)-green gram/ black gram, rice + (fish in pond) + pigeon pea (on dyke)-green gram, and rice + (fish in pond)-vegetables/onion/sesame with economic benefit ranged between Rs 1.37-1.74 lakhs ha⁻¹ year⁻¹.
- The auxiliary tank-cum-well system improves land and water productivity and cropping intensity in canal command areas through integrated farming systems involving multi-enterprise components and remunerative diversified field crops.

BENEFITS

- This technology has been highly beneficial, especially to the tail-end farmers of the canal command where, very often, the canal water supply is inadequate.
- An auxiliary tank-cum-well system can be a reliable source for life-saving irrigation for crops during dry spells and for post-rainy season crops; thus, it acts as a contingency measure against drought-like situations.