

Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi is taking a serious note of the water scarcity issue in Potrwar Region and is devising strategies to barricade this out flowing natural resource with enormous potential for improving agricultural activities in Pothwar Area. Average precipitation alone in monsoon varies from 15 to 30 inches in the Pothwar terrain, while, the crop husbandry greatly suffers due to water shortage in the region. This clearly speaks of poor management rather than water scarcity.



Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi has initiated rainwater harvesting program at Koont Research Farm located on Mandra – Chakwal Road. The farm is being transformed into a model demonstration unit embarking upon new era of modern mechanized agriculture supported with high efficiency irrigation systems powered through solar panels.

In this program 5 farm ponds with a capacity of 55 acre-ft of water have been excavated. Experience indicates that these ponds were filled to their capacity in early rain showers of the monsoon season 2013.

It can be safely opined, farm ponds of same size or even larger capacity for rain harvesting in the region are imperative to cater the crop husbandry in the years to come. The University has prepared a program of raising high value crops from these ponds. The developed farm ponds are sufficient to irrigate an area of 150 acres orchard crops including olive, grapes, citrus, fig, apricot, almond, pears besides tunnel vegetables especially tomato, cucumber, etc. using drip irrigation. The University rain harvesting model is meant for production and knowledge dissemination to the Pothwar farmers.

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Rainwater Harvesting



Training and capacity building in sustainable agricultural water management:

Addressing food security and social instability in Pakistan (SAWaM-Pak)

