

ALL INDIA COORDINATED RESEARCH PROJECT FOR DRYLAND AGRICULTURE



Dryland agriculture in India is facing twin problems of poor fertility and inadequate moisture availability for successful crop production that results in partial or total failure of crops with the occurrence of mild and severe droughts. Because of high intensity rains and lack of proper vegetative cover every year billions of tones of top fertile soil is lost for production. That apart, the scarce water is also lost. The extent of loss depends on rainfall characteristics, soil properties and topographic features.




Research was started in low rainfall areas at Raichur during 1934 in Kalyana Karnataka (KK) region which is having 22% of the geographical area, 31% of total cultivated area and 20% of the irrigated area of the state. KK region is having 19.8 lakh ha under rainfed condition. Looking to the needs of this region such as in-situ moisture conservation technologies, alternative crops to increase the productivity and soil conservation measure to minimise the soil erosion and rain water harvesting to conserve the rain water, All India Co-ordinated Research Project on Dryland Agriculture (AICRPDA) was started during 2015 at MARS, Raichur as voluntary centre with the following mandates/ objectives

Mandate

1. Optimization of the use of natural resources viz. Rainfall land and water to minimize soil and water loss and degradation of environment.
2. Evolvement of simple technology to substantially increase crop productivity and viability.

3. Increasing stability of crop production over years by providing improvements in natural resources management and crop management systems and alternate crop production technologies matching weather aberrations.
4. Development of alternate and sustainable land use systems.
5. Evolvement and study of transferability of improved dryland technology to farmer's fields.

Staff Position as on Date

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