

Appraisal study of soil and water conservation measures in Raichur district, Karnataka

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■ **ABSTRACT** : The present study was carried out in five villages in Raichur district of the Karnataka to determine the level of soil erosion on agriculture lands as well as the soil and water conservation measures adopted by farmers in their fields. The results indicated that the agriculture lands were moderately sloppy 3.5% with an estimated soil loss of 2.1 t/ha/year. Average bulk density was found to be 1.8 g/cc, indicating slightly compact soil leading to low infiltration rate. Conservation measures put in place by farmers to reduce erosion, increased soil nutrients and conservation moisture included use of chemical fertilizers and manure applications. The study revealed that soil erosion is moderately high in the area but the farmers put measures in place to reduce its effects and conservation soil moisture.

■ **KEY WORDS** : Bulk density, Conservation, Erosion, Infiltration rate, Soil moisture

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