

ECONOMIC ANALYSIS OF FARM PONDS IN TUNGABHADRA

PROJECT COMMAND AREA OF KARNATAKA, INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Farm ponds add value to farming activities through the means of water supply to domestic and as well as for livestock. It serves irrigation facilities to growing crops and supporting for raising of fishes. Even though TBP (Tungabhadra Project) command area is a canal fed, release of canal water varies with the onset on monsoon rains and water level in TB dam. Hence, it is very problematic for paddy growing farmers for raising paddy nursery before release of canal water and for drinking water for animals and human beings after the closer of canal water during months of April-June. In this situation there is a need to bring out pros and cons of farm ponds. Cost, returns, and economic viability for small, medium and large farmers with and without farm ponds are presented for Tungabhadra region of Karnataka. IRR are 14, 18 and 19 respectively. Average total cost per pond is between Rs. 685201 to Rs. 2076406. Total net income is higher in case of large pond farmers with Rs. 15.45 lakh compared to 1.75 lakh farmers without farm pond. Results of the study revealed that farm ponds generated an additional income and employment through different utilities. Therefore, farmers may be encouraged to construct farm ponds based their requirement and availability of resources. These results have implications for regional comparative advantage of crop production as well as incentive for adoption of new technologies in convention ponds.

KEYWORDS: Farm Pond, Utilities of Farm Pond, Investment, Economic Viability