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## Contingency Crop Planning During Aberrant Weather Situations

Rajendra Madhav Wagh\*

**ABSTRACT:** Rainfall behaviour in dry farming areas is erratic and uncertain. The deviations in rainfall behaviour include delayed onset, early withdrawal, intermediary dry spells during rainy season. The adverse effect of these rainfall aberrations on crop growth vary with the degree of deviation and the crop growth stage at which such deviations occur.

Suitable manipulations in crop management practices are needed to minimize such adverse effects of abnormal rainfall behaviour. These management decisions constitute contingency planning. Such management practices done after crop establishment and in the middle of growth are called midterm corrections.

**Key words:** Aberrant weather situations, Contingency Crop Planning, Crops, Dryland

### INTRODUCTION

In India, dryland agriculture has a distinct place in agriculture occupying 67 per cent (95.8 M ha) of the cultivated area, contributing 44 per cent of food grains and supporting 40 per cent human and 60 per cent livestock population. Dryland agriculture is characterized by poor resources, infrastructure and low investment in technology and inputs with small and marginal farmers.

Besides arable farming, dryland farmers are dependent on livestock as an alternative source of income. This fact emphasizes the crucial role that dryland agriculture is playing in India economy and food security (Singh *et al.*, 2002). Dryland agriculture is characterized by wide spatiotemporal variations with regard to productivity of crops because of high fluctuations in agro climatic conditions.

Crop production in dryland region is a gamble with rainfall. In order to impact stability and provide sustainability, improved technology and appropriate cropping systems for a given agro-climatic environment. Intercropping is an important practice known for giving additional yield and returns without appreciable reduction in the yield of main crops and gives assurance against total crop failure especially under aberrant weather conditions. Similarly, the double cropping is one of the most important cropping system of increasing

productivity and stability of dryland yields (Swaminathan, 1972).

**Objectives - following are the objectives of this study**

1. To discuss the about different aberrant weather situations that may occur during the crop season.
2. To discuss the about various concepts, strategies and techniques of contingency crop planning,

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This is descriptive study based on secondary data. Various research journals, books, websites & various reports which is related to different aberrant weather situations that may occur during the crop season, concepts, strategies and techniques of contingency crop planning were studied to draw the conclusions.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

In this paper different concepts of different aberrant weather situations that may occur during the crop season, concepts, strategies and techniques of contingency crop planning are discussed as follows.

#### Aberrant weather situations and Contingency Crop Planning

At present there is a talk about second green revolution. The International Food Policy Research

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