



A SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Bamboo plantations in gullied lands, Vasad

Under the National Bamboo Mission, a study was conducted for reclaiming degraded gully-beds with 3 types of bamboo-based interventions (bamboo plantations with staggered contour trenches; supported by *bori bund* and as live checkdams). In all the three, absorption of rainfall was more than 80% and soil loss was reduced from 15.57 to 5.25 tonnes/ha. Economic indicators for the bamboo plantations in different treatments revealed that for a production span of 20 years, the net present value varied from ₹ 222,588/ha in bamboo live checkdam treatment to ₹ 319,731/ha in *bori bund* reinforced with bamboo. B: C ratio worked

out to be 2.09, 2.05 and 1.96, respectively, in the three treatments. Bamboo performance in 'trenching' gave the best internal rate of returns (20.2%) as compared to *bori-bund* reinforced with bamboo (19.7%) and bamboo live checkdam (19.3%).

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