

NEPAL ENGINEERING COUNCIL LICENSE EXAM PREPARATION COURSE

FOR

CIVIL ENGINEERS



7. Irrigation and Drainage

7.1 Water demand estimation

Sub topics



crop water and irrigation water requirements; water availability for irrigation; command areas; irrigation intensity; duty, delta and their relationship; water losses and irrigation efficiencies; effective rainfall; soil-moisture-irrigation relationship; depth and frequency of irrigation; design discharge for canals.



Irrigation can be defined as the science of artificial application of water to crops throughout the growth period to attain full maturity or for maximum crop production

Irrigation does not reduce the crop growing period



The pH value of irrigating water is 6 to 8.5. The soil becomes practically infertile if its PH is more than 11. Sodium absorption ratio (SAR) should be less than 18.

$$SAR = \frac{Na^{+}}{\sqrt{\frac{Ca^{++} + Mg^{++}}{2}}}$$

CA	SAR Value	Type of water	Suitability	
	0-10	Low sodium water	Suitable for all types of crops and soil	ſ
(s 7	10-18	Medium sodium water	Suitable for coarse soil with good permeability	2
٢3	18-26	High sodium water	Harmful for all soils and requires good drainage	
(4	> 26	Very high sodium water	Not suitable for irrigation 🗡	



Necessity of irrigation

-Inadequate rainfall 🛩

-Uneven distribution of rainfall with respect to time and area Increasing the crop yield ✓-Growing number of crop _/ \emptyset -Growing perennial crop

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Advantages

- 1. Increasing in food production and protection from famine
- 2. General prosperity
- 3. Elimination of mixed cropping
- 4. Navigation
- 5. Flood control
- 6. Generation of hydropower
- 7. Domestic and Industrial water supply
- 8. Afforestation





Disadvantages

- 1.Water pollution [seepage of fertilizer(nitrate) into the groundwater reservoir]
- 2. Formation of marshy land
- 3. Water logging due to over irrigation
- 4. Colder and damper climate.
- 5. Loss of valuable lands

History of irrigation in Nepal



In 1979 B.S (1922 A.D) construction of first irrigation canal of Nepal i.e Chandra canal started and was completed in 1985 B.S (1928 A.D)

Chandra canal was constructed in Triyuga river of Saptari district and having a command area of 10500 ha

First irrigation development policy was developed in 2049 B.S and currently irrigation policy 2070 B.S is in use. Department of irrigation was developed in 2044 B.S.

Status of irrigation in Nepal



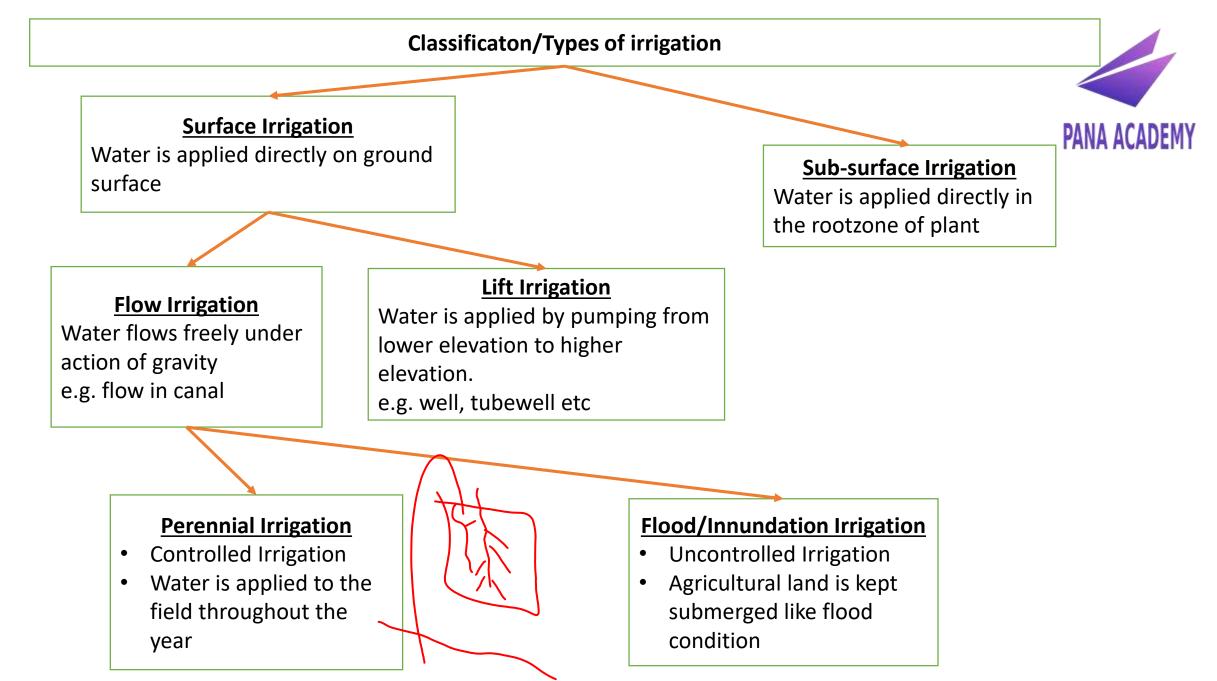
Total agricultural land = 41,210 km² (28%) $\frac{28}{75}$ Total Cultivable area = 26,41,000 ha Total irrigable area = 17,66,000 ha $1h_{a} = 10^{4} m^{2}$ $1 \text{ Km}^{2} = 100 \text{ ha}$ At the end of the fiscal year 2078/2079, Surface irrigation = 10, 16, 496 ha Sub surface irrigation = 5,13,524 ha Total irrigated area = 15,31,069 ha

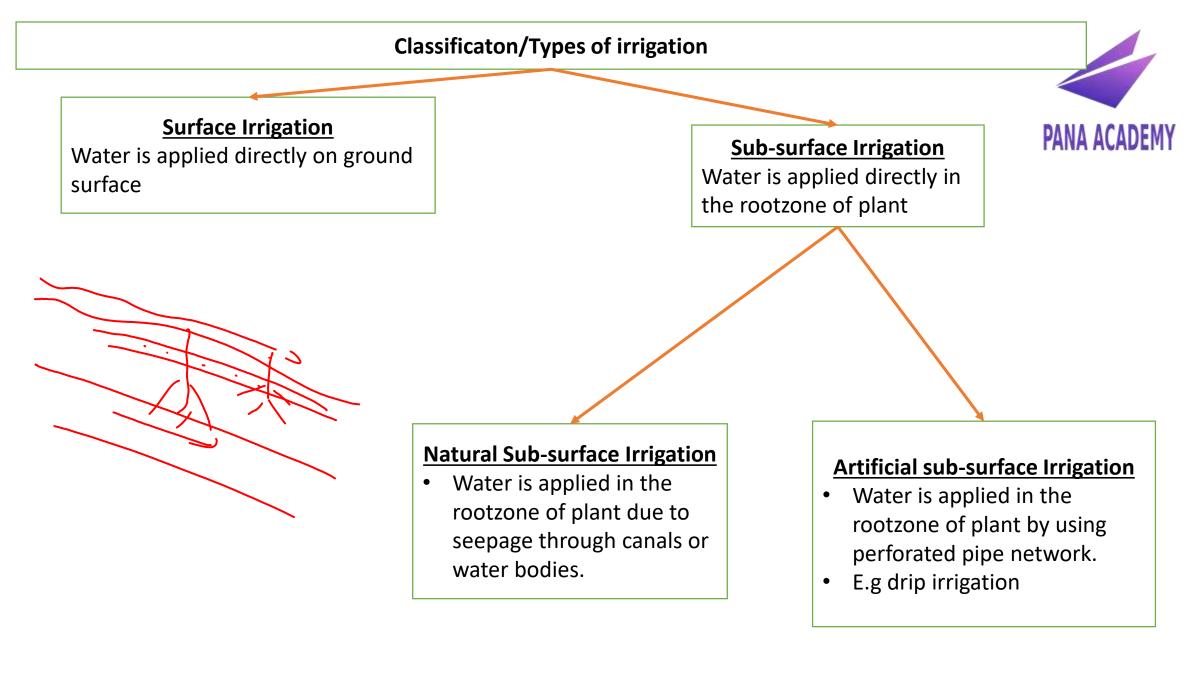


Arid region/zone \rightarrow) cyct Without irrigation no crops can be grown Rainfall less than 25 cm per year 10 inch year

Semi Arid Region/Zone

Without irrigation some low inferior crops can be grown Rainfall 25 cm to 50 cm per year

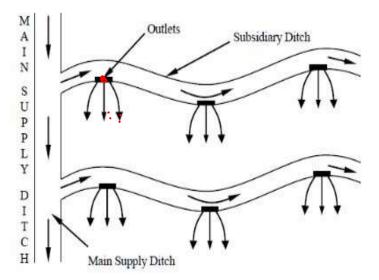






Wild/Free flooding / Ordinary flooding

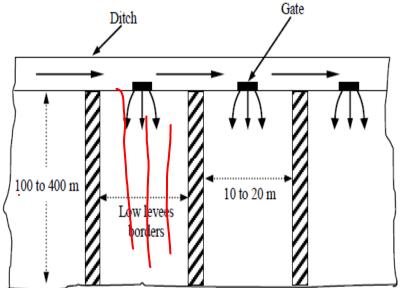
- Water is applied to the field in an uncontrolled way so called as uncontrolled flooding.
- Usually ditches are <u>20 to 50 meters</u> apart depending upon the slope, soil texture and types of crops sown.
- Suitable on <u>flat rolling</u> land.
- This method has lowest water application efficiency (η_{α})





Border strip flooding method

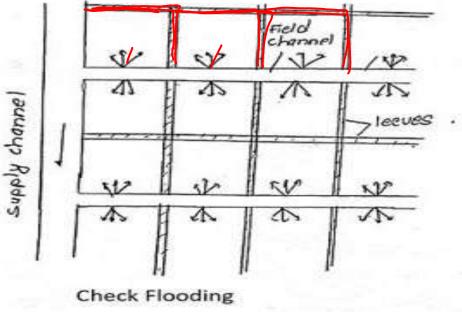
- Land is divided into a number of strips with the help of low levees
- Each strip is generally of 10 to 20 m in width and 100 to 400 m in length
- Suitable for some close crops like rice, pastures etc





<u> ∠ Check area flooding method</u>

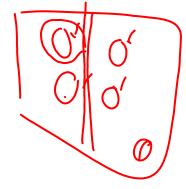
- Most common and widely practiced method in Nepal.
- Area is divided into small plots by low levees called as check areas.
- Check area varies from 0.2 ha to 0.8 ha.
- Suitable method for cereal crops
- Suitable for more permeable soil as compared to border and free flooding method





Basin Flooding Method

- Most suitable method for orchard farming or gardening
- Basins are made around one or more trees in shape of square, circular etc. but circular is more common so called as Ring basin method.
- Basins are kept submerged.
- This method economize water considerably.







Furrow Irrigation method

- Suitable method for row crops like potatoes, onions, sugarcane etc.
- Furrows are narrow ditches excavated between rows of plants
- Furrow/ditches carry water and crops are planted on ridges.
- Depth of furrows varies from 8 cm to 30 cm and about 400 m long
- About 20% to 50% i.e one-fifth to one half of the land is wetted by water.

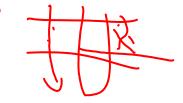




Sprinkler Irrigation Method

- Water is sprayed to crops in form of artificial rain.
- Suitable for any type of land Topography.
- Suitable at water scarce area with pressure
- Pressure of rotating head is 1.4 kg/cm² to 2.1 kg/cm²
- Having high water application efficiency of 80 to 85 %
- Suitable where water table is high.
- Suitable for light soil having high infiltration rate
- Strong wind disturbs sprinkling pattern.
- Suitable for fruits, vegetables, coffee, tea etc.







Drip/Trickle Irrigation Method

- Water is slowly and directly applied to the root zone of plants through the nozzles present in the pipe network buried under surface
- Water is applied drop by drop at the rate of 2 lit/hr to 10 lit/hr.
- This method has highest water application efficiency of more than 90%
- Suitable for any type of land topography.
- Suitable in water scarce area.
- Suitable for fruits vegetables





- **1.** Kharif crop season: (April to September)
- Also called as monsoon crops
- Sown at beginning of summer or end of winter and harvested at end of summer or beginning of winter.
- E.g Rice, maize, millet, groundnut, pulse, cotton, soybean, bajra etc

2. Rabi Crop Season : (October to March)

- Also called as winter crops.
- Sown at beginning of winter or end of summer and harvested at end of winter or beginning of summer. E.g Wheat, barley, linseed, potatoes, mustard, gram etc.



<u>3. Zaid crops</u> (March to June) are summer crops that are grown in India between the kharif (monsoon) and rabi (winter) seasons, typically from March to June. These crops require warm, dry weather for their major growing period and longer day length for flowering

Eg: Watermelon, Cucumber, Bitter gourd, Pumpkin, Strawberry, Arhar, Masur (lentil)



<u>4. Perennial Crops:</u>

- Crops having base period of more than 300 days.
- E.g sugarcane, flowers, fruits etc.

5. Leguminous Crops:

- Belongs to legume family i.e peas, beans, lentils etc.
- These crops roots have nodules that contains nitrogen fixing bacteria called as <u>Rhizobium bacteria</u> that helps to improve the nitrogen content of the soil.
- E.g peas, beans, hemp, gram, groundnut etc.



6. Cash Crops:

- Also called as profit crops.
- These crops are grown to sell for profit.
- E.g Coffee, tea, vegetables, fruits etc.





- Also called as Rabi-Kharif ratio.
- Defined as ratio of area irrigated during rabi season to area irrigated during kharif season
- Generally taken as 2:1



Quantity of water required by the crop from the time it is shown to time it is harvested is called as **crop water requirement**. Factors affecting crop water requirement are climate, type of soil, effective rainfall etc $Paddy \Rightarrow R_{i,e}$ (120(\frown)

Consumptive Use(Cu): Total amount of water used by the plants in transpiration (building plant tissue) and evaporation form plant adjoining area in any specified duration of time. Unit mm/day Cu = Evapotranspiration + water used in plant metabolism Cu= Evapotranspiration (Neglecting water used in plant metabolism)

120m



Effective rainfall (Re): Rainfall during crop growing period which is available to meet the consumptive use or evapotranspiration needs requirement of the plant. It is the available water stored in soil within root zone of the crop.

Irrigation water requirement: The amount of water to be supplied artificially by irrigation for Fulfilling crop water requirement. Irrigation Water Requirement = Crop water requirement + Losses



Consumptive Irrigation Requirement (CIR)

It is the quantity of water actually required by plant. If natural rainfall provides a part of consumptive use, the consumptive irrigation requirement is given as:

CIR = Cu - Re Cu= Consumptive Use, Re = Effective Rainfall





Net Irrigation Requirement (NIR)

In addition to CIR, NIR takes into consideration of leaching requirement as well as pre sowing requirement.

NIR = CIR + LR + PSR + NWR

where,

- LR = Leaching requirement
- PSR = Pre-sowing requirement

NWR = Nursery water requirement



Field Irrigation Requirement (FIR)

In addition to NIR, FIR takes into consideration of water application loss i.e amount of water lost as surface runoff and through deep percolation. FIR = NIR + Application Losses d_{xi} FIR = $\frac{NIR}{\eta a}$ ra = Water application efficiency

ηa = Water application efficiency

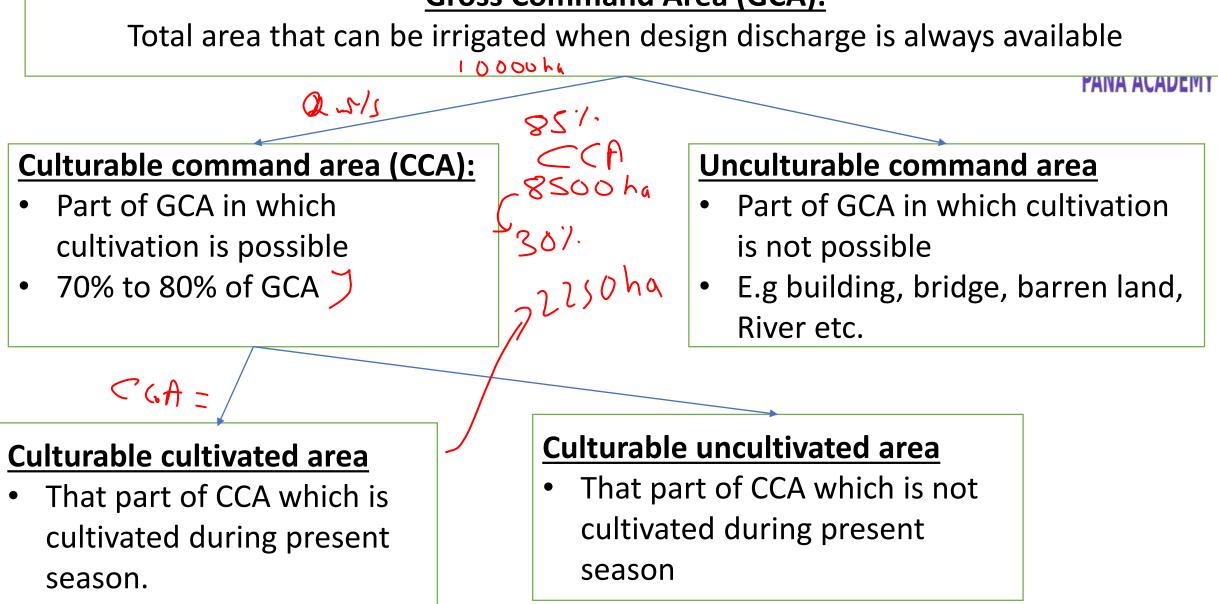


Gross Irrigation Requirement (FIR)

In addition to FIR, GIR takes into consideration of water conveyance loss through canal system by evaporation and seepage.

GIR = FIR + Conveyance Losses $GIR = \frac{FIR}{\eta c}$ $\eta c = Water conveyance efficiency$ GIR > FIR > NIR > CIR

Gross Command Area (GCA):



Command Areas



Commanded area is defined as the area that can be irrigated by canal.

Gross Commanded Area (GCA)

It is the total area (cultivable as well as uncultivable like ponds, roads, residential area, etc.), within the irrigation boundary of irrigation project, which can be economically irrigated considering that unlimited quantity of water at design discharge is available.

Culturable/Cultivable Commanded Area (CCA) • Part of (CCA) in a line line in the second data and the second data and

- Part of (GCA) in which cultivation is possible.
- CCA is generally taken as 70% to 80% of GCA.

Command Areas



Unculturable command area:

That part of GCA in which cultivation is not possible. E.g Road, forest, barren land, building etc.

Culturable cultivated area

That part of CCA which is proposed to be irrigated in present season.

Culturable uncultivated area

That part of CCA which is not irrigated during present season.

Intensity of Irrigation (IOI)

IOI = % CCA purposed to be irrigated.

8500 ha CCA 2250 ha 2012 Cultiona PANA ACADEMY 2012 Cultiona Seasonal Intensity of Irrigation for a season and Annual Intensity of Irrigation for a year. $\frac{2000}{9500} - 23\%$, $\frac{167}{9500}$

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Annual intensity of irrigation is summation of seasonal intensity of irrigation within a year

Annual IOI = $(IOI)_{R}$ + $(IOI)_{K}$

Annual IOI can be more than 100% as well.

Intensity of Irrigation (IOI)



(Q) If CCA of an irrigation field is 100 hectares, of which 40 hectares is cultivated in kharif season and 70 hectares in Rabi season.

Ans: 110%.

$$IOI_{\kappa} = \frac{40}{100} = 40\%$$

$$IOI_{\kappa} = \frac{70}{70} = 70\%$$

$$40 + 70 = 110\%$$

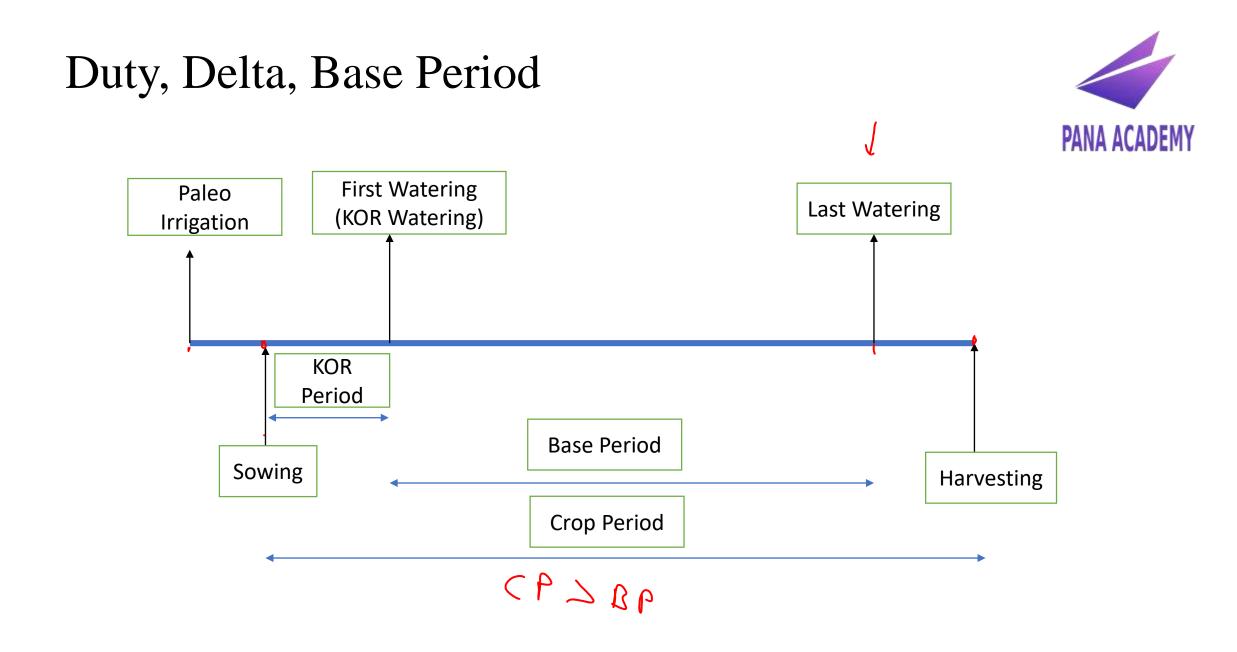
Intensity of Irrigation (IOI)



(*Q*) If CCA of an irrigation field is 100 hectares, of which 40 hectares is cultivated in kharif season and 70 hectares in Rabi season.

Ans: 110%.

The Intensity of irrigation for Kharif is $40/100 \times 100\% = 40\%$ and for Rabi will be $70/100 \times 100\% = 70\%$. The annual intensity = 40% + 70% = 110%. Annual IOI can be more than 100%





Crop Period

The time period between sowing of crop to its harvest is called crop period and is expressed in days.

Base Period KOR Jalong



Time between the first watering of a crop after sowing to the last watering before harvesting is called Base period. It is expressed in days and represented by B.

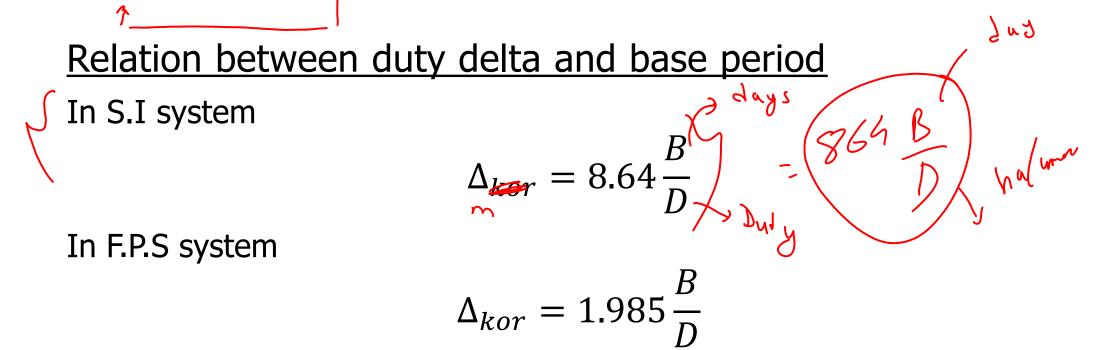
Generally, Crop period >Base period Practically, Crop period = Base period

- Duty of water is defined as the hectares of land that can be irrigated by a constant supply of water at one cumecs (m³/s) throughout the base period (B).
- It's unit is ha/cumecs (m³/s).
- As we move from canal to field duty of water increases.
- Duty is maximum at the field.
- Duty at the head of water course (outlet point) is called as outlet duty or **outlet factor** or outlet discharge factor.
- Factors affecting duty are type of soil, type of crop, temperature, wind velocity, humidity, effective rainfall etc.



<u>Delta (</u>∆)

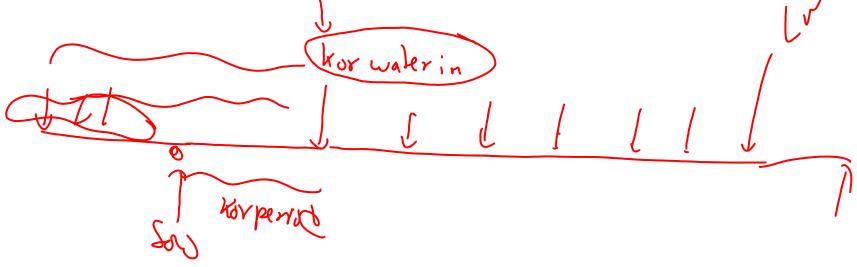
• The total depth of water, in cm, required by a crop to come to maturity is called delta (Δ).





Paleo Irrigation: Irrigation done before sowing for land preparation is called as paleo irrigation.

• It helps in initial growth of plant upto few cm.





kor-watering: First watering after sowing when the plant has grown few cm is called as kor-watering.

• It is usually **maximum** single watering followed by other watering at regular interval.

kor-depth (Δ_{kor}): Depth of kor-watering is called kor-depth.

<u>kor-period(B</u>_{kor}): Time period between sowing and kor-watering is called as kor-period.

 $\Delta_{kor} = 8.64 \frac{B_{kor}}{Outlet \ factor}$

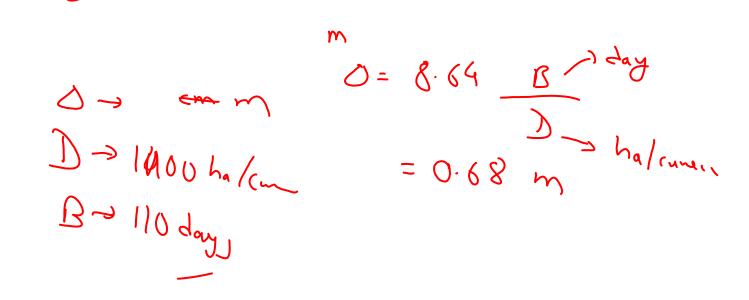


	Crop	Delta	Base period	KOR depth	KOR period	Duty	Root zone depth
Padd y		(cm)	(Days)	(cm)	(weeks)	(ha/cumecs)	(cm)
المعلى	Rice	120	120	19	2-4	775	90
e	Wheat	40	120	13.5	3-8	1800	100
	Sugarcane	120	330	16.5	-	800	150
	Cotton	50	-	-	-	_	140
	Maize	25	-	-	-	-	100
	Tobacco	75	-	-	-	-	80



(Q). Find the delta for a crop if duty for a base period of 110 days is 1400 hectares/cumec.

Ans: 68 cm





(Q). A crop requires a total depth of 92 cm of water for a base period of 120 days, Find duty of water at field canal. If there is 10% loss in convenience, find duty at head of main canal.

Ans: 1127 ha/cumec, 1024 ha/cumec

$$\Delta = 0.92m \qquad D_{t} = 8.64 R \\ 1122 = 1024m D_{t}$$

Overlap Allowance:

The extra discharge required to mature the crop which extends from one season to another season is called as overlap allowance.

Capacity Factor:

Defined as the ratio of mean supply discharge in a canal to its design discharge.

Time Factor:



Defined as the ratio of actual operating period of canal to the crop period/Base period.

0.75

This factor helps to check the danger of over-irrigation.

(Q). The time factor for rabi season is fixed at 0.75 for a canal. What are the number of days the distributary will receive its full supply if the crop season is 120 days **Ans: 90 days.**



Water losses and irrigation efficiencies;



∠ <u>Water conveyance efficiency (ηc)</u> – Ratio of water delivered to the fields to the water diverted into canal $η_c = \frac{Wf}{Wc} * 100$

<u>Water application efficiency(na)-</u> Ratio of the quantity of water stored in the root zone of the plants to the quantity of water delivered to the field.

$$\eta_a = \frac{Wsrz}{Wf} * 100$$

Overall efficiency $(\eta_o) = \eta_c \times \eta_a$

Water losses and irrigation efficiencies;



<u>Water use efficiency(η_u)-</u> Ratio of quantity of water beneficially used by plant to the quantity of water delivered to the field.

$$\eta_u = \frac{Wu}{Wf} * 100$$

<u>Water storage efficiency (n_s) </u> – Ratio of water stored in the root zone during irrigation to the quantity of water required in root zone $\eta_s = \frac{Wsrz}{Wrrz} * 100$ Water losses and irrigation efficiencies;



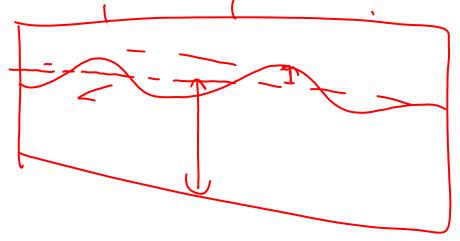
<u>Water distribution efficiency(η_d)</u>- Uniformity coefficient. Measures effectiveness of irrigation.

It evaluates the extent to which water is uniformly distributed.

$$\eta_d = \left(1 - \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{D}}\right) * 100$$

d=average numerical deviation in depth of water stored

D=average depth of water stored in field



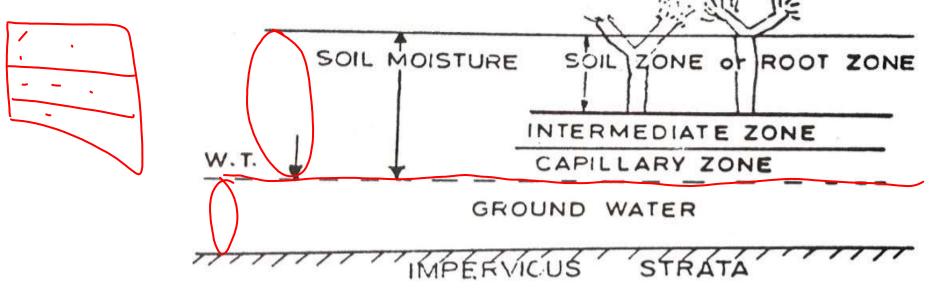
W_{SYL} ×100'J. Dole PANA ACADEMY

(Q) A field having 40 ha area receives supply at the rate of 8 cumecs for 6 hours and 30 cm water was stored in the rootzone. Find the water application efficiency.

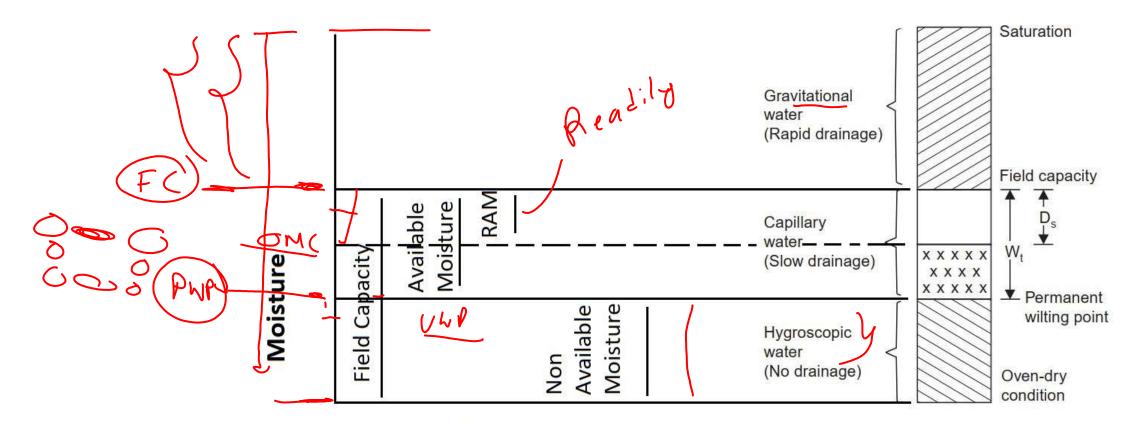
Ans: 70% = $\frac{30}{100}$ × 100/ Volume od water = V= 8m3/5×6×60×60 = 17880 m3 $A = 40ha = 40 \times 10^{4} m^{2}$ $\Delta = \frac{172800}{40 \times 10^{4}} = 0.432m = 43.2cm$



- The water above water table is termed as soil-moisture while below as groundwater.
- **Root zone depth:** Maximum depth in soil strata upto which crops spreads its roots to extract water is called as root zone depth.
- Excess and deficit affect crop growth and yield







Time



<u>Gravity water:</u> The part of rainfall or irrigated water that flows down to water table under the action of gravity.

Also called as superfluous water

Not available for plant \times

<u>Capillary water:</u> Water held by surface tension against gravity that

 \mathcal{I} can be extracted by plants by capillary action.

This water is available for plant

Also called as available water

<u>Hygroscopic water:</u> This water is held as thin film layer on soil surface by loose chemical bond and hence is not available to plants Also called as adsorbed water



Saturation Capacity: The water content of soil when all the pores are filled with water. It is the maximum water holding capacity of soil in root zone.

<u>Field Capacity:</u> The water which cannot be drained under the action of gravity and is retained on surface of soil grain by molecular

attraction or loose chemical bond(adsorption)

Wt.of water retained in certain volume of soil

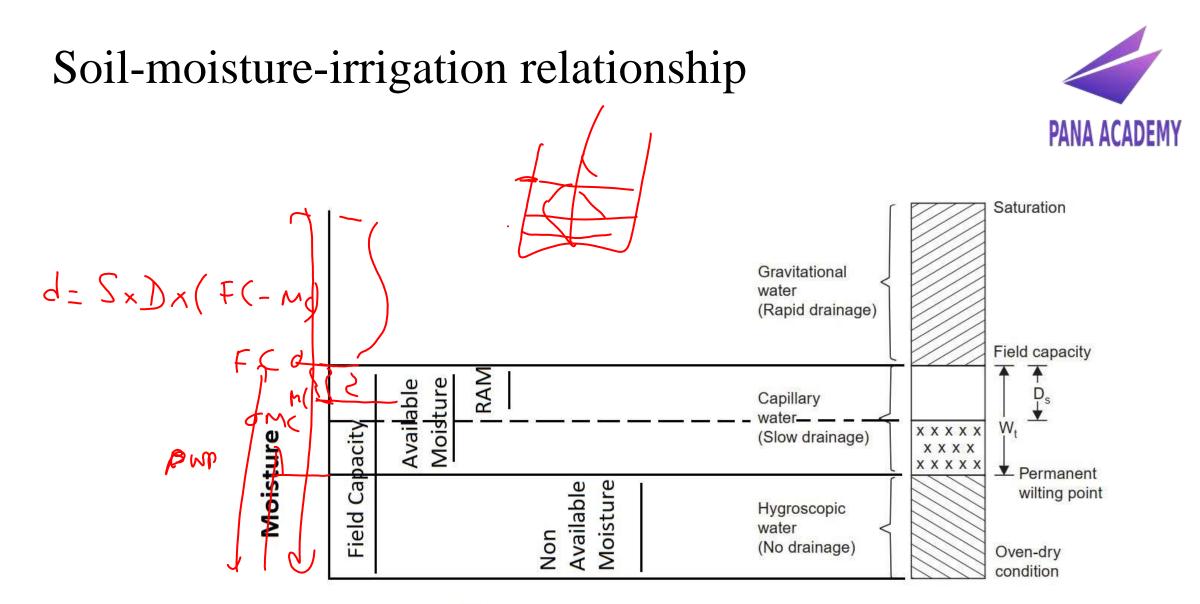
Wt.of same volume of dry soil



<u>Permanent wilting point(PWP)</u>: The water content at which plant can no longer extract sufficient water for its growth and will die.

- <u>Ultimate wilting point (UWP):</u> The water content at which plant will die even if we irrigate.
- Ofr = SxDx & FC
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between field capacity and permanent wilting point $AM(=S_A)X(F(-P_UP))$ $RM(-S_A)V(FC-ONC)$



Time



<u>Optimum moisture content (OMC)</u>: Maximum water level upto which Moisture may be allowed to be depleted in root zone.

<u>Readily available moisture content(RAM):</u> The portion of AMC that is most easily extracted by plants is called RAM. It is generally taken as 75% to 80% of AMC

<u>Soil moisture deficiency:</u> Water required to bring soil at a given water content to its field capacity.



If D be the root zone depth in meters and d be the equivalent depth of water in the soil of surface area A m²

Then,

 $FC = \frac{Wt.of water retained in certain volume of soil}{Wt.of same volume of dry soil}$ Let, $\gamma d = dry$ unit weight of soil (KN/m³) $FC = \frac{\gamma w * A * d}{\gamma d * A * D}$ $\int d = \frac{\gamma d * D * FC}{\gamma w} = S * D * FC$ This is depth of water stored in the soil upto root field capacity depup - SxD- PUD



Let, $\gamma d = dry$ unit weight of soil (KN/m³) $FC = \frac{\gamma w * A * d}{\gamma d * A * D}$ $d_{availiable} = \frac{\gamma d * D * (FC - PWP)}{\gamma W}$ $d_{Readily availiable} = \frac{\gamma d * D * (FC - OMC)}{\gamma W}$

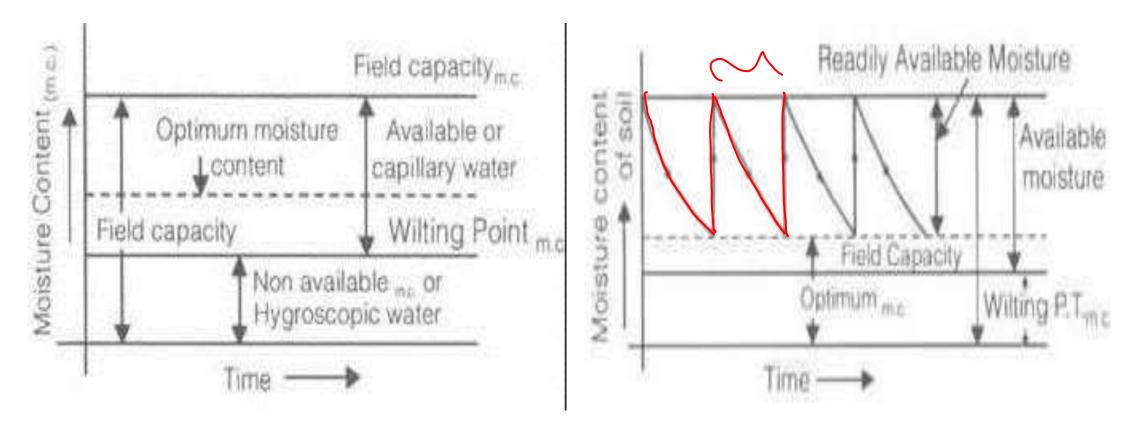
Depth and frequency of irrigation

 $d_{Readily \text{ availiable}} = \frac{\gamma d * D * (FC - OMC)}{\gamma W}$ This is depth of water stored in the soil upto moisture is readily available and plant is not stressed. Irrigation is done to increase moisture from OMC to FC $d_{irr} = d_{Readily}$ availiable Water required by plants = ETcrop mm/day Thus, Irrigation interval = $\frac{Depth \ of \ water \ required}{ETcrop}$ Time interval between two consecutive watering is called as

frequency of irrigation (FOI) or Rotation period

Depth and frequency of irrigation





Om

By



Q) Calculate the storage capacity of soil, depth of water available for consumptive use and irrigation interval with given data.

Field Capacity = 40%, Permanent Wilting Point = 16%, Effective depth of root zone = 70 cm , Dry Density of Soil = 1.5 gm/cc , Consumptive Use of Water , ETc = 5mm/day , RAM = 80% of available moisture Ans: 201.6 m -(40) -(40)

RAM Depth = <u>20.16 cm</u> and Irrigation interval = 40 days

$$S=1.5 \qquad drop = S \times D \times 0.10$$

$$drc = S \times D \times F_{c} = 16.8 cm$$

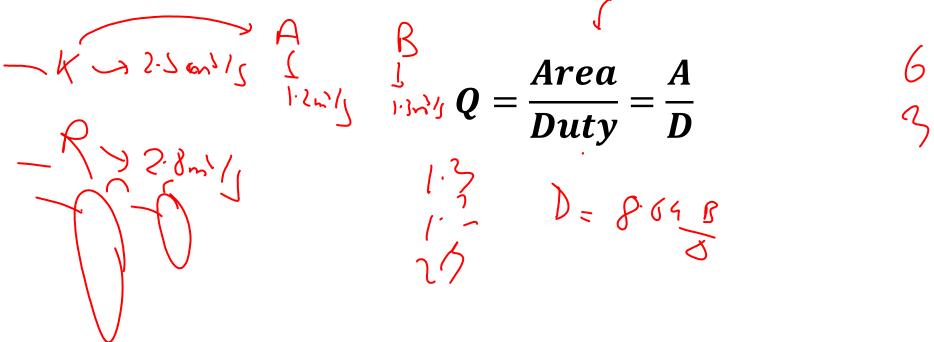
$$= 1.5 \times 70 \times 0.4$$

Design discharge of canal



Design discharge is:

- Maximum of discharge required if two season is given
- Sum of discharge if crops are of same season or crops have
 overlapping growing season



Ans: 25.5 cumec

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Er Dilendra Raj Panta

(Q). An irrigation canal has GCA of 80000 ha out of which culturable irrigable is 85%. The intensity of irrigation for Kharif season is 30% and for Rabi season is 60%. Find the discharge required at the head of canal if the duty at its head is 800 ha/cumec for Kharif and 1700 ha/cumec for Rabi.

6×0.7 = 85.25.9

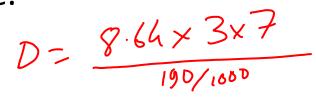
Sus

CCA



(Q). The culturable command area for a distributary channel is 10000 hectares. The intensity of irrigation is 30 per cent for wheat and 15 per cent for rice. The kor period for wheat is 4 weeks, and for rice 3 weeks. Kor watering depths for wheat and rice are 135 mm and 190 mm, respectively. Estimate the outlet discharge.

Ans: 1.674 cumecs



 $Q_{R} = \frac{0.15 \times 10000}{954.54} = 1.57$ Qu = 0:3×10000 = 1679 D = 2.64×6×2 1792 = 1679 D = 2.64×6×2





(Q). An irrigation canal has CCA of 2600 ha out of which intensity of irrigation for perennial sugarcane is 20% and for rice is 40%. Find the discharge required at the head of canal if the peak demand is 120% of ave. requirement, if duty at its head is 750 ha/cumec and 1800 ha/cumec respectively. Qde= Qava X1.2

Ans: 1.53 cumec