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A new concept of conservation ditching-a dual purpose terracing system-was experimented at Bellary for four years since 1976. The results of the experimentation indicate that conservation ditching could act both as a terrace and a storage structure at the individual field level eliminating the erstwhile problems. An annual maximum soil loss of 3.0 tonnes/ha was deposited in the ditches. The water collected in the ditches could easily be lifted by hand pumps and utilised for supplemental irrigation to *rabi jowar* in 1978 resulting in increased yields of 46.8 and 36.8% grain and straw, respectively over the unirrigated crop. *Dichanthium annulatum* planted on the side slopes recorded a yield potential of 15.5 tonnes/ha of green matter.