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Vertisols occur extensively in arid, semi-arid, dry subhumid and moist sub-humid regions of India. Agriculture in this region is confined to post-rainy season which is marked with high variability of crop yields from year to year and low productivity. The main reasons for this are unscientific management of rain water and land apart from poor choice of crops/varieties and inefficient management practices. On the basis of research carried so far in the region, the paper suggests that it is possible to relieve the farming community from the clutches of poverty and upgrade their economy by introducing appropriate soil conservation and agronomic practices.