

488. **Singh, Gurmel and Bhardwaj, S.P. 1986.** Evaluation of soil conservation agronomy practices in India-A review. In: "Soil Conservation in India". Eds. R.K.Gupta & M.L.Khybri, IAS&WC, Dehradun: 119-130.

The paper deals with sporadic studies on soil conservation agronomy conducted in runoff plots of different size and under varying slopes of different agro-climatic zones of India. Erosion losses were found to be very high under natural fallow plot and the soil loss increased especially under cultivated fallow conditions while grasses and natural soil cover gave lowest loss of runoff, soil and nutrients. Agricultural crops with high soil loss after mixing or intercropping with legumes such as *arhar*, sunnhemp, soybean or cowpea, showed reduction in soil loss. Application of nitrogen and phosphorus increased effectiveness of crops in reducing erosion losses. Strip cropping proved to be an important soil conservation measure. Strip cropping with grasses was most effective. Suitable strip crops and their size have been worked out for various slopes in different agro-climatic zones of India. Role of mulching, minimum tillage, use of weedicides and crop geometry in moisture conservation

has also been discussed.