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In a field study conducted on the sandy-loam soils near Chandigarh, the grain yield of chickpea (*Cicer arietinum* Linn.) increased by 1.1 to 2.1 q/ha (7 to 12%) in 1978-79, when rainfall was high, and by 2.4 and 6.1 q/ha (28 to 78%) in 1979-80, when rainfall was low, with 1 (pre-sowing) and 2 (pre-sowing+flowering stage) irrigations. The 3-year mean yield was 8.4 q/ha without irrigation and 10.3 and 12.0 q/ha with 1 and 2 irrigations.