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In an Operational Research Project located in the foothills of northern India, excess monsoon rainwater was harvested from 10 contiguous forest watersheds and used for supplemental irrigation. The performance of one typical reservoir was studied for 10 years (1978-87) with particular reference to the management of agricultural droughts. The supplemental irrigation benefits from pulse, oilseed and cereals have been projected. Due to large production benefits, the project has been replicated at more than 80 places in 5 years and now forms an important component of agricultural development programmes of the region