

290. Kurian, K. 1973. Studies on bench terracing. *Soil Conserv. Digest*, 1(1): 36-44.

The paper discusses how the specifications of bench terracing in Nilgiris region are determined from the field observations on runoff, soil loss/soil moisture and yield of potato. Different sub-types of bench terraces with a view to evolve a cheaper method of

construction and to prevent exposure of sub-soil are discussed. It is indicated that bench terraces with the vegetative barrier are practically feasible and economically desirable. In this the investment is less and phased over years and higher yields are obtained. 2% inward grade appears to be the most acceptable one. 0.84 or even 1% longitudinal gradient should be provided to ensure better drainage. Optimum length of bench terrace could be taken as 100 m for uniform moisture distribution.