

433. **Ranga Rao, V., Ramachandram, M. and Rama Mohan Rao, M.S. 1978.** Some simple crop production practices for efficient exploitation of seasonal aberrations in rainfall in rainfed *rabi* belt of Bellary. II. Mid seasonal corrections in plant population as a life saving practice. *Mysore J. Agric. Sci.*, XII(3): 425-433.

The degree of response to plant density in winter sorghum and safflower varied significantly depending on seasonal variations in rainfall pattern and the quantum of residual moisture

available for crop growth. Size of optimum plant populations and the magnitude of production levels realized were significantly higher under conditions of adequate moisture than those recorded in subnormal seasons. Safflower showed limited response to plant density unlike *jowar* due to its multiple branching. Genotypic differences in their response to plant density under diverse seasonal conditions were highly distinguished in sorghum. The frequency and amount of rainfall received during early crop growth period rather than antecedent rainfall prior to seeding was observed to be of critical importance in determining both the yield levels and the degree of response to plant density because of poor and uncertain *kharif* rainfall. Mid seasonal corrections in plant populations were suggested.