

Release of Groundwater Quality Maps for Irrigation Purpose (1st Revision-2024)

A Groundwater Quality Map of India and 13 States viz., Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Punjab, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar has been released in the inaugural programme of the International Salinity Conference “**Rejuvenating Salt Affected Ecologies for Land Degradation Neutrality under Changing Climate**” on 14 Feb. 2024. The inaugural programme was convened in virtual presence of Dr. S.K. Chaudhari, Hon’ble Deputy Director General (Natural Resources Management), ICAR, New Delhi, Dr. Gurbachan Singh, Former Chairman, ASRB, New Delhi, Dr. S.K. Ambast, Chairman, Central Ground Water Board, New Delhi, Dr. B.R. Kamboj, Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, CCS HAU, Hisar, Dr. R.K. Yadav, Director, ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal and Dr. M.J. Kaledhonkar, Former Project Coordinator of AICRP (SAS & USW) and other stalwarts in the field of salinity/sodicity management in the country. The groundwater samples based on GPS locations were collected at village level and analyzed for categorization of water quality classes as per guidelines of ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal. The groundwater quality classes are divided into Good, Marginally Saline, Saline, High SAR Saline, Marginally Alkali, Alkali and High Alkali classes. Earlier, the groundwater quality map has been prepared in 1992. Due to some geogenic changes and changing the course of underground distribution of aquifers, the water quality was severely affected. The groundwater quality data for first revision and generation of the map was collected by the scientists of AICRP on Management of Salt Affected Soils and Use of Saline Water in Agriculture centres located in different State Agricultural Universities viz., Raja Balwant Singh College, Bichpuri, Agra (UP); CCS HAU, Hisar (Haryana); College of Agriculture, RVS Krishi Vishwa Vidhyalaya, Indore; (MP); Punjab Agricultural University, Regional Station, Bathinda (Punjab); Rice Research Station, Kerala Agricultural University, Vyttila (Kerala); ADAC & RI, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Tiruchirappalli (Tamil Nadu); SK Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner (Rajasthan); ANGRAU, Saline Water Scheme, Bapatla (Andhra Pradesh); Khar Land Research Station, Dr. BS Sawant Konkan Krishi Vidhyapeeth, Panvel (Maharashtra); ICAR-Central Island Agricultural Research Institute, Port Blair (Andaman & Nicobar Islands); ICAR-Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal (Haryana) and its Regional Research Stations located in Bharuch (Gujarat) and Lucknow (UP).

This Groundwater Quality Map has been prepared with the financial support of ICAR, New Delhi, the processing of the groundwater data were completed by AICRP on Management of Salt Affected Soils and Use of Saline Water in Agriculture. The overall guidance and support of the NRM Division, ICAR, New Delhi and CGWB, New Delhi is duly acknowledged. Based on the ground truth data categorized into different water quality classes, these maps are generated with the technical support of ICAR-NBSS & LUP, Nagpur. ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal and AICRP (SAS & USW) Unit, CSSRI, Karnal thankfully acknowledge the technical support provided by NBSS & LUP, Nagpur and constant guidance and financial support by NRM Division, ICAR, New Delhi.



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