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Site Selection for Implementation of Rainwater Harvesting Techniques in Insiza, Ward 17 in Zimbabwe

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Session: Basin (Limpopo) and Rainwater Management

Key Message

The soil is the link between the atmosphere (climate) and production (plants or crops). Proper land use is part of successful farming and relies on proper matching of land qualities with land use requirements.

Summary

According to the Zimbabwe Soil Classification system, the dominant soils in Insiza district are sandy and loamy soils. The soils are also classified as 5G. The topsoil colour in the dry state ranged from yellow, yellowish red, yellowish brown to red. The subsoil dry colour ranged from yellowish red, dark red and red. According to field method results, the clay content of the topsoil ranged from 5 to 25% whereas in the subsoil it is between 5 and 35%. The soil depth ranged from 250 to 2200 mm. Namib, Oakleaf, Clovelly, Tukulu and Sepane soil forms (South African Soil Classification System) were found in Nkankezi village whereas shallow Hutton soil form was found in Tombo village. Soil depth plays a crucial role in implementation of RWH since depth is needed for water holding capacity. Following the results, two croplands with Tukulu and Namib soil forms were selected and one homestead with Namib soil form was selected in Nkankezi. The sites selected represent a wide area in Ward 17 in term of soil types.