

# **WATER HARVESTING ON THE FARM**

- **Why?**
  - Reduces reliance on dwindling groundwater supplies
  - Reduces stormwater runoff, erosion, flooding & water quality issue.
  - Can reduce energy cost, especially if the harvest system is gravity.
  - Rainwater is pure, no hardness and better on equipment.
- **Uses of Harvested Water**
  - Irrigation of crops
  - Irrigation of vegetative plantings, hedgerows, etc
  - Wildlife water
  - Livestock water
  - Other including water for washing, dust control, etc.
- **Sources**
  - Captured rainfall from roof tops and other surfaces (incl. hoops)
  - Runoff from landscape including storm water & irrigation tail water
  - Perched or high water table, springs and seeps
  - Treated wastewater or other impure water in farming operation
  - Condensation and dew
  - Other
- **Harvesting Approaches**
  - Rainwater: Gutters, down drains, underground pipes, pumps, filters, tanks/pond/cisterns & conveyance system.
  - Surface water: waterway diversions, pond/tanks, pipelines, pumps..
  - Subsurface water: Spring Development, Subsurface drain, drywell
  - Polluted water: Treatment (filter & purification) of tainted water