

## **Do's and Don'ts for Duststorm/sandstorm in Agriculture**

In many countries, field afforestation is the main measure to protect the soil from dust storms.

### **Do's:**

- Undertake harvesting of matured crops.
- For duststorm/sand storm use wind breaks. One of the best methods is the use of windbreaks or shelterbelts to reducing the impact of wind speed, which would then reduce the amount of soil material from being carried and transported. The benefits of windbreaks include decreased soil erosion, increased crop yields, reduced potential and actual evapotranspiration; improved internal plant water relations, reduced livestock stress, control of drifting snow, building maintenance and energy savings.
- Use the crop residues or plastic sheets or chemical adhesives for protection of the loose soil particles and erosive force of wind.
- Leaving stubble in fields, non-mould board ploughing, application of chemical substances promoting the hooking of soil particles, soil-protective crop rotation using perennial grasses and seeding of annual crops are also important.
- In regions with intensive wind erosion, especially on wind shock slopes or on light soils, stripe cultivation may be used.
- Strengthen infrastructure such as houses and also for grain storage.
- If livestock not sheltered from the storm, it could be directly harmed and any stress from the physical environment to livestock can reduce their productivity and growth. Therefore keep the livestock animals in shelter.

### **Don'ts:**

- Avoid application of fertilizers and dust type pesticides/insecticide and also spraying.
- Avoid to work in the field.