



LASER LAND LEVELING

A Resource Conservation Technology



**M. Zubair, Mauza Kari Wala, Shah Jeuna,
Tehsil and District Jhang**

LASER Land Leveling Benefits

- Increases productivity of land and water resources
- Improves agricultural incomes
- Enhances cultivated area by reducing dikes and ditches
- Reduces production costs by enhancing cultivation efficiency and minimizing labor for irrigation
- Makes effective use of utilize every drop of water and each inch of agricultural land



Water cannot be applied uniformly when fields are not precisely leveled because depressions receive more water and high spots receive less water. Through non-uniform water application, farmers usually waste 20 to 25 % water, get poor germination, uneven crop stand and ultimately low crop yields. Farmers usually level their lands using conventional land leveling technique which does not precisely level the fields and water loss continues due to uneven fields' topography. Now with the introduction of LASER land leveling technology, fields can be leveled very precisely which help in applying water quite efficiently, promote uniform crop stand and ultimately increases crop yields.

M. Zubair belonging to Mauza Kari Wala, Shah Jeuna of tehsil and district Jhung, is one of those farmers who got LASER unit from OFWM on subsidy and got fitted on his tractor to level his own land as well as provide rental services in his union council.



“I own about 12 acres of land located at the tail end of Kot Sultan minor where farmers always face severe water shortage. It was not possible to irrigate even half of the total land as water allowance in the command is only 23 minutes/acre. In the meantime, I came to know that one farmer of the area got a LASER land leveler from Water Management Department on rent for getting his land leveled. I learned the benefits of LASER land leveling and decided to get the LASER unit on rent to level my 4 acres land initially”.

While sharing his experience he told that “After LASER leveling four acres land, I planted rice crop and much surprised to observe that the rice area which used to take 5.5 hours to complete irrigation before leveling, is irrigated within 3 hours after leveling. This helped to save about 43% precious water and at the same time rice yield was increased by about 7.5 maunds/acre due to improved water use. Labour required for applying irrigation was also reduced significantly”.

On the basis of pleasant experience, Mr. Zubair decided to get more benefits of the technology. He got a LASER unit on rent from a private service provider and got leveled remaining land by making payment to the service provider @ Rs.2000/hour. After observing the miracles of LASER land leveler, he decided to purchase his own LASER unit because it would be very expensive to get the land leveled from the service provider before cultivation of each crop.

He excitedly told that “luckily during the year 2012, I came to know



through the newspaper that OFWM wing of Agriculture Department is providing LASER units to the interested farmers on cost sharing basis who are willing to provide land leveling services to other farmers. I applied for the LASER unit and my application was declared successful through a process of balloting. The supply & service company provided LASER unit as per procedure and I got training from Water Management Training Institute for operation & maintenance of the same”.

He added that “after owning a LASER unit, I started contacting farmers of the surrounding areas and shared the benefits of LASER land leveling technology who observed the demonstrated impacts of Laser leveling technology at my farm and approached me with requests to level their lands. Accordingly, I started providing land leveling services to the farmers of different villages and successfully leveled an area of 175 acres at the rate of Rs.1,200/hour during the year 2012. **Due to my hard work and blessings of Allah Almighty, I am able to have better livelihood with the income from rental services for LASER land leveling”.**

Mr. Zubair enthusiastically shared that now he levels about 400 to 500 acres land of other farmers every year and earns, on an average, Rs. 200,000 annually.

While concluding, he told that the farmers who get their land leveled, save 30 to 35 % water, increase the crop yields and enhance their farm income. Thus I suggest all farmers to get their land leveled for increasing per acre yield, enhance their farm profitability and improve livelihood.

