

District at a Glance:

2.2.1 Location:

Faridkot is located in the South- Western part of Punjab state between 29°-54' to 34°-54' North latitude and 74°-15' to 75°-25' East longitude. It shares common boundaries with Moga and Bhatinda in the east, Ferozpur district in the North & West and Muktsar district in the South. It is located in the Malwa region of the state. It is elevated at 204.33 metres above sea level.

Faridkot district is the smallest district of state comprising of two tehsils i.e., Faridkot and Jaitu and has been divided into two blocks i.e., Faridkot and Kotkapura.

2.2.2 Demographic Profile:

The geographical area of the district is 1476 sq km which comprises of only 2.9% of the area of Punjab State. There are 171 villages (including 12 uninhabited in the district. Total number of Gram Panchayats is 190.

The population of the district is 2.2% of the state population. The density of the population works out to be 376 persons per sq km. The corresponding figure for the Punjab State is 484 persons per sq km. The majority of population resides in villages (nearly 65%).

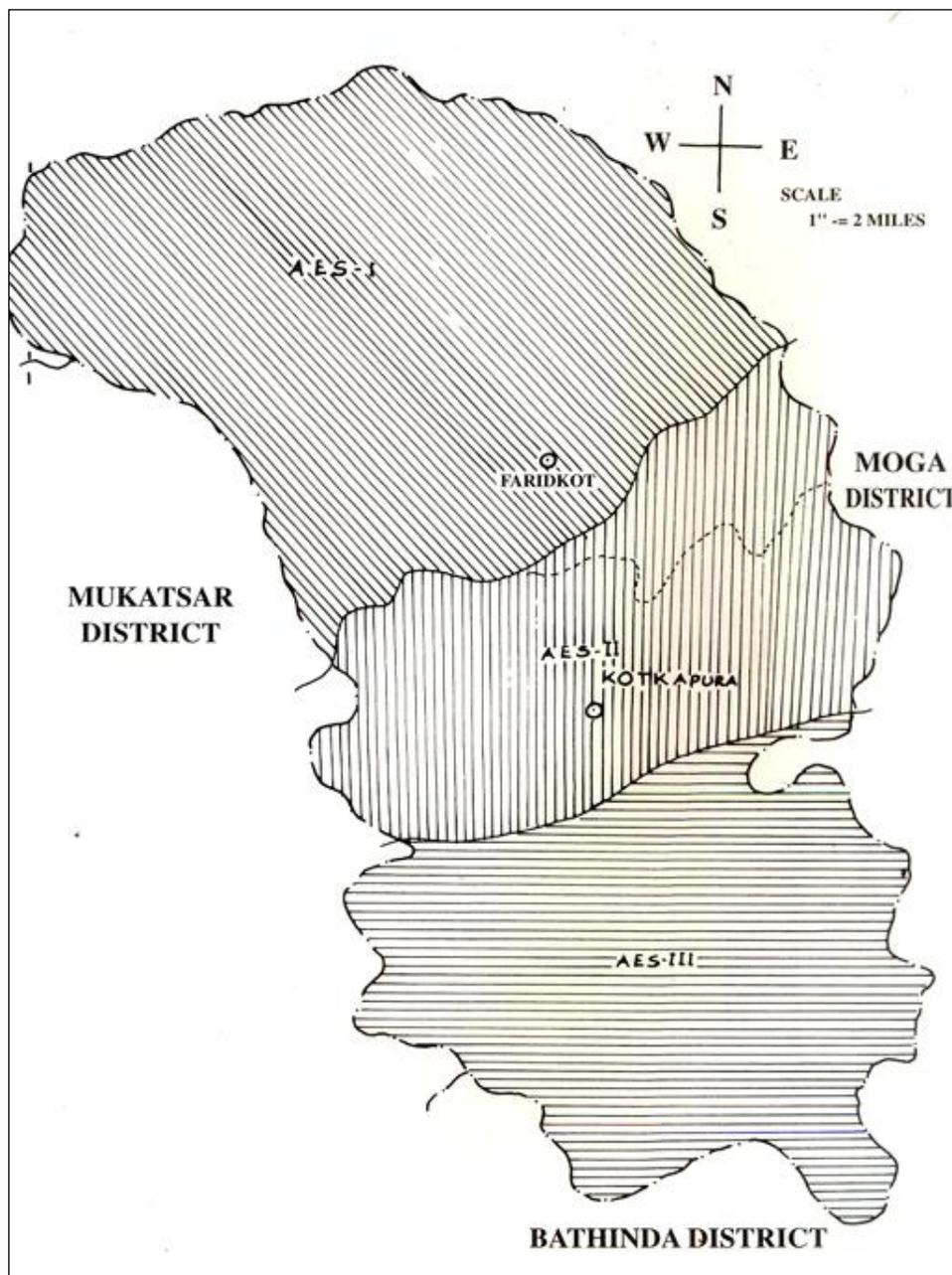
2.2.3 Topography and Agro-Climatic Characteristics:

Faridkot district is a part of Punjab Malwa plain and is sub-divided into the following three micro regions on the basis of soil, topography, climate and natural vegetation.

a) Faridkot Hathar-Sadiq-Sandy Plain

This part extends over Sadiq part of the district commonly known as Hathar area. This part of the district has a large number of sand dunes of soil. The quality of underground water is very poor and except for some pockets it is not fit for irrigation. The water is quite saline, alkaline and brackish. The urgent and the prime need of this area is to provide more canal water to

Fig 2.3 SOIL MAP OF DISTRICT FARIDKOT



make this sandy area more fertile. The streamlining of more canal minors is urgently required so that the alkaline salt of the sub soil waters cannot do more damage to the fertility of the soil.

b) FARIDKOT: Uttar- Dhudhi-sandy-Loam

This part of Faridkot district extends over Dudhi, Kot Sukhia, Tehna and is known as Uttar area. The soil is sandy loam. This area requires more canal water supply. Due to extension of agriculture and irrigation there is apparent disappearance of sand dunes to a great extent which have been levelled up to a great extent.

c) Jaitu Area : Sandy Loam to Loam

This region extends over and around Jaitu tehsil. The quality of underground water is poor to marginal except few pockets. The texture of soil is sandy loam to loam. This area is known for cotton cultivation but with the constant inclement weather, excessive and untimely rains followed by humid conditions, the farmers have been compelled to switch over to paddy cultivation since 1995, as cotton crop has been attacked severally by American boll worms and has not providing the required returns. However to retain the previous cultivation of cotton, the farmers are being persuaded for cotton cultivation using BT sheed.

The district is situated in the dry region of the state. The climate is extremely hot and dry in the summer and severe cold in the winter. The rainfall season is mild as the region is situated far away from the hills. It begins to warm up in the middle of March though nights are cool, getting hotter till early July when the mercury often crosses 45⁰C. Dust storms and heavy winds are frequent during the hot weather. Monsoon rains around the first week of July with erratic spells lasting upto mid of September. The days are hot until mid of October but the nights are comparatively cooler. The cold weather for the next few months is severe and dry but quite healthy. Some rains may occur from mid December to mid February. January is the coldest month when the mercury may touch freezing point.

Sometimes hailstorms may occur during February and March. The rainfall in the district increases generally from South-west towards North-east. About three fourth of the annual rainfall in the district is received during the period from July to September whereas the remaining rainfall occurs during the winter months in the period from December to February.

2.2.4 Land Use Pattern and Land Holdings:

The geographical area of the district is 146875 hectares out of which 128198 ha is under cultivation (Table 2.2.1). The gross cropped area of the district during 2008-2009 was 255073 hectares and cropping intensity was 199%. The main source of irrigation are canals supplemented by tubewells irrigation. More than 99% of the area is irrigated by canals and tubewells.

Table 2.2.1 Land Utilization Statistics (2008-09) of District Faridkot.

Block	Geographical Area	Forest Area	Land Under Non agril. Use	Cultivable waste	Permanent Pastures	Land under miscellaneous tree crops and groves	Current Fallows	Other Fallows	Net sown area	Gross Cropped area	Cropping intensity (%)
Faridkot	71180	1804	9585	0	0	0	1283	0	59704	118909	198
Kotkapura	75695	200	7137	0	0	0	956	0	68494	136664	198
Total	146875	2004	16718	0	0	0	2239	0	128198	255573	198

(Area in Hectares)

District Faridkot

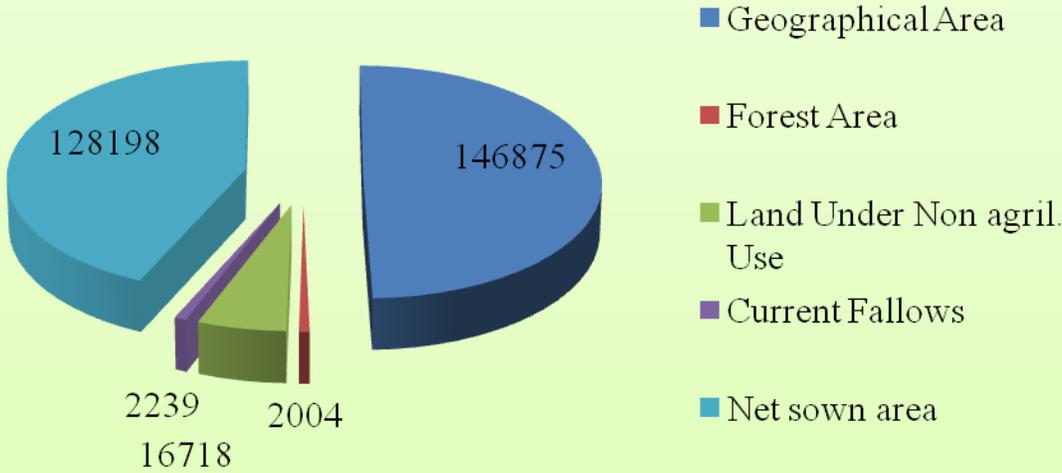


Figure 2.1 Land Utilization Statistics of District Faridkot 2008-09 (area in hectares)

According to census 2005-06, out of a total of 29496 farmers in the district, there are a total of 3132 marginal farmers, 4611 small farmers, 9088 semi medium farmers, 10640 medium farmers and 2025 large farmers (Table 2.2.2).

Table 2.2.2 Classification Of Farming Families Based On Their Number And Acreages (In Ha)

Block	Marginal Farmers		Small Farmers		Semi-med. Farmers		Medium Farmers		Large Farmers		Total	
	No.	Area	No.	Area	No.	Area	No.	Area	No.	Area	No.	Area
Faridkot	2253	1488	3190	4484	6865	18507	7435	42307	1343	20530	21086	87316
Jaitu	879	515	1421	2006	2223	6126	3205	18637	682	9178	8410	36462
Total	3132	2003	4611	6490	9088	24633	10640	60944	2025	29708	29496	123778

(Holdings in numbers and area in ha)

Marginal farmers- 0 to 1 ha

Small farmers- 1 to 2 ha

Semi-Medium farmers- 2 to 4 ha

Medium farmers- 4 to 10 ha

Large farmers- 10 ha and above

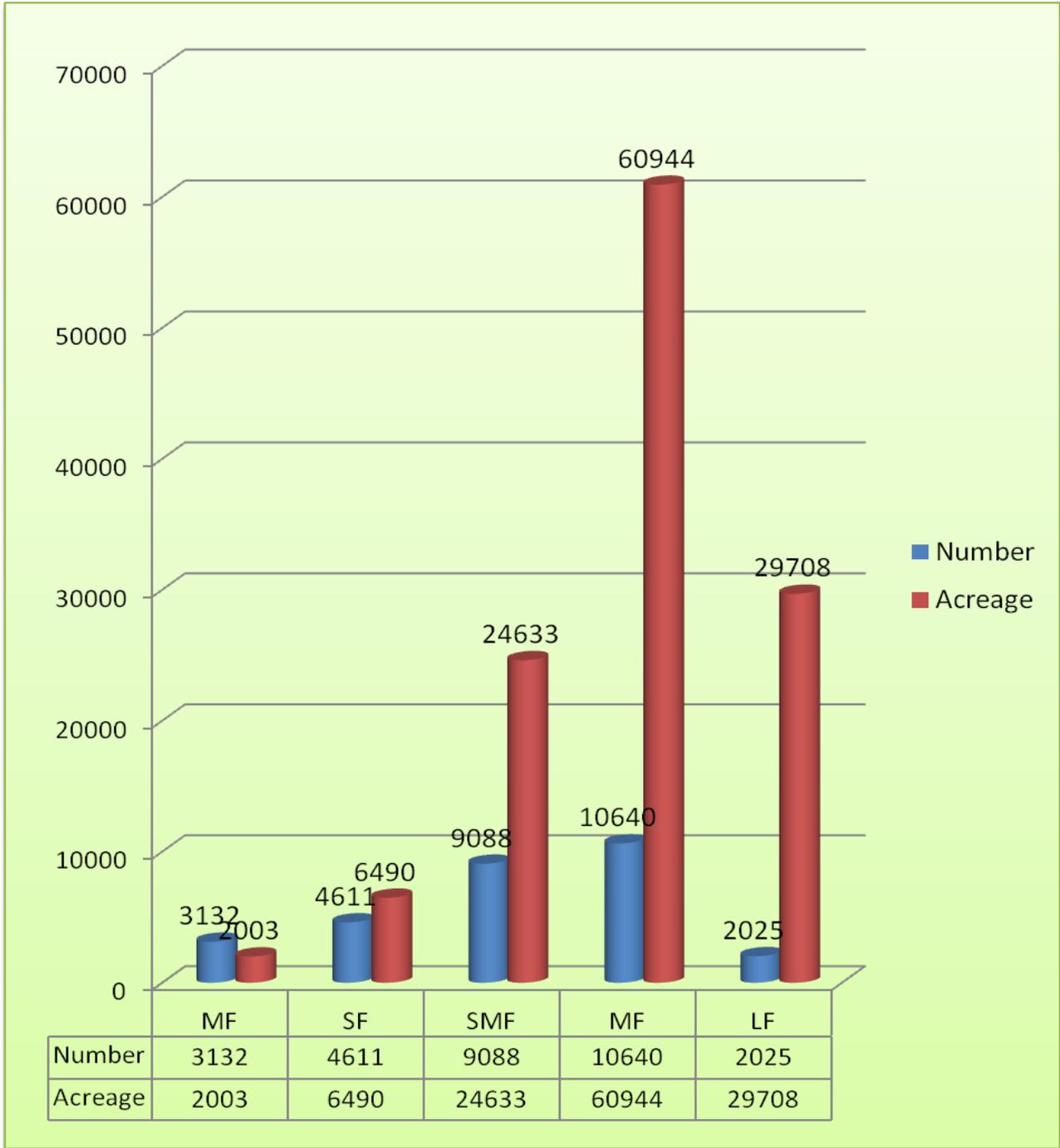


Figure 2.2 Classification of Farming families based on their number and acreage (in ha)
 (MF-Marginal Farmers, SF-Small Farmers, SMF-Semi medium Farmers, MF-Medium Farmers, LF-Large Farmers)

2.2.5 Irrigation and Ground Water:

No river flows through this district but there is a vast net work of canals emanating from Sirhand Canal System and Sirhand feeder. Rajasthan feeder and Sirhand feeder flow through the district after taking off from Harike Headworks on the Sutlej river after its confluence with Beas river. Sirhand canal however takes off from Sutlej at Ropar Headwork's. Besides there are some drains and channels which flow during the rainy season. A number of drain such as Golewala and Mudki, Langeana, etc., has been constructed to drain low lying areas of the district.

Fig 2.4 GROUND WATER QUALITY MAP OF DISTRICT FARIDKOT

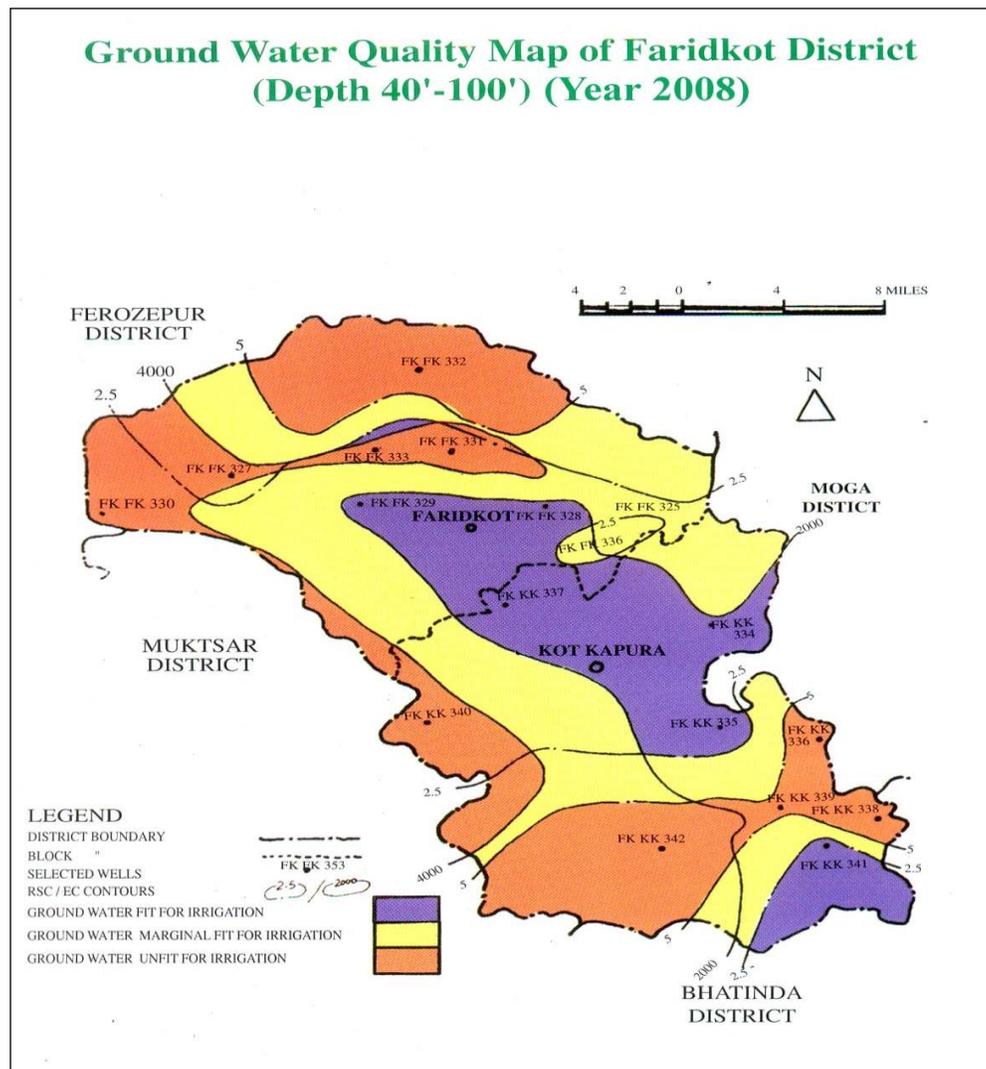


Fig 2.5 DEPTH TO WATER TABLE MAP OF DISTRICT FARIDKOT.

