Forestry and horticulture are closely linked for watershed management along with environmental amelioration and socio-economic upliftment, the later resulting in considerable improvement of the quality of life in villages. The forestry and horticultural systems generate several positive environmental impacts in watershed areas like improvement in hydrological balance and production of water from rain water harvesting, improvement in physical properties of degraded soils, alimentation of ground water, reduction of surface runoff water and sedimentation of reservoirs, recycling of carbon, creation of favourable micro-climatic condition conducive to higher food production, increase rainfall through transpiration and maintaining balance in oxygen, carbon dioxide, atmospheric temperature and relative humidity. The grain crops like cereals, pulses and oilseeds grown by farmers under fragile condition are just enough to meet their family requirements but the products of fruit trees give cash to them. Some fruit leaves e.g. Ber contain good percentage of crude protein, which proves beneficial for the browses. Apart from leaves the fruit trees also yield wood from the annual pruning, which can be sued as fuel wood. Fruit trees provide employment to the farmers and their family members during off season also. Likewise, the forest trees maximized the per unit production of fodder, fuel, wood and other forest products. In addition to this, the forest trees also optimize the productivity of biological and physical resources viz., land, labour, live stock, soil moisture, solar radiation and the like. The forest trees also preclude the soil erosion, conserve the soil moisture, increase the soil fertility, help in eco-friendly farming and maintain the ecological balance.

It has been estimated that the forest bushes/shrubs and small horticultural trees take CO₂ @ 3 M.T./ha from the environment and release O₂ @ 1 M.T./ha. Similarly, standing trees catch to dust @ 70 M.T./ha on their foliage and clean the environment, reduce the temperature and