| Outcome | Root causes | Suggested government action | Suggested farm-level action |
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| ***Soil erosion*** | High rates of farm tenancy and absentee landlords means over-production of crops relative to livestock; soil mining; lack of farm improvement/long-term planning; expansion of farming into marginal areas; over-cultivation of small landholdings; failure to recognise diversity of soil conditions across the region | Extensive surveying of land, soil and water resources; states to create erosion control districts; create zoning regulations that direct land to appropriate use based on local conditions; expand farm extension services and agricultural research | Plow along contours; list and furrow fields at right angles to prevailing winds; plant crops in strips; terrace slopes; till soil roughly and leave high stubble after harvest; avoid bare summer fallow in wind-exposed areas and instead rotate in cover crops like clover; plant windbreaks |
| ***Loss of forage cover for grazing*** | Overstocking of range lands; expansion of farming into marginal areas | Federal government acquisition of range lands, with centralised control; state governments to organise grazing associations; avoid reselling rangeland seized for tax delinquency | Reduce herd sizes or keep herds off fragile lands |
| ***Inefficient use of water*** | Poor farming technologies and practices fail to conserve soil moisture; inadequate capacity for irrigation | Greater investment in small-scale surface water storage and retention for irrigation where possible; develop systematic irrigation policies; institute laws to protect and conserve ground water | Create deeper, better water ponds for livestock; use supplemental irrigation where cost effective to do so |
| ***Highly variable farm incomes; high rates of farm indebtedness*** | Undue dependence on wheat as a cash crop; high rates of tenancy; family farm landholdings too small in size; mechanisation in 1920s was financed on credit during period of good rainfall and favorable crop prices | Publicly financed programs to increase farm size and active resettlement of families occupying small or marginal farms; promote development of non-agricultural resources in region (e.g., lignite coal); fund greater research into pest control | Maintain a higher of ratio of fodder and livestock to cash crops; reduce proportion of wheat and corn on farms; create diversified operational plans; keep larger feed and seed reserves |