TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS ______ *iii*
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ______ *iv*
TABLE OF CONTENTS ______ *xxi*
ACRONYMS ______ *xxiv*
LIST OF FIGURES ______ *xxv*
LIST OF TABLES ______ *xxviii*

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION ______ *1*

CHAPTER 2 NATURAL RESOURCE BASE OF THE STUDY AREA ______ *6*
2.1 General ______ 6
2.2 Climate ______ 7
2.3 Vegetation ______ 8
2.4 Soils ______ 11
2.5 Water Resources ______ 13
2.6 Land Use and Potential ______ 13
2.7 The Study Sites ______ 14

CHAPTER 3 BASELINE SOCIO-ECONOMIC STUDY ______ *22*

3.1 Background ______ 22
3.2 The Problem ______ 23
3.3 Research Objectives ______ 23
3.4 Study Design ______ 24
3.5 Methods ______ 25
  3.5.1 Focus group discussion (FGD) ______ 25
  3.5.2 Key informant interviews ______ 25
  3.5.3 Transect walks ______ 25
  3.5.4 Household survey ______ 26
3.6 Results – Ntembeni ______ 26
  3.6.1 Demographics ______ 26
  3.6.2 Infrastructure ______ 27
  3.6.3 Household water and sanitation ______ 28
  3.6.4 Socio-economic profile of Ntembeni ______ 28
  3.6.5 Community activities ______ 30
  3.6.6 Land ownership and land use ______ 31
  3.6.7 Water supply and water use ______ 32
3.7 Results – KwaMncane ______ 34
  3.7.1 Demographics ______ 34
  3.7.2 Infrastructure ______ 35
  3.7.3 Household water and sanitation ______ 36
  3.7.4 Socio-economic profile of KwaMncane ______ 36
  3.7.5 Community activities ______ 37
  3.7.6 Land ownership and land use ______ 39
  3.7.7 Water supply and water use ______ 40
3.8 Discussion ______ 41

CHAPTER 4 THE EFFECT OF SELECTED WATER HARVESTING AND SOIL CONSERVATION TECHNIQUES ON SOIL WATER AND CROP YIELD ______ *47*

4.1 Introduction 47
4.2 Materials and Methods 49
  4.2.1 Automatic weather station 49
  4.2.2 Soil physical properties 50
  4.2.3 Soil water studies 53
4.3 Results and Discussion 66
  4.3.1 Climate 66
  4.3.2 Soil water studies 69
  4.3.3 Plant growth (micro-catchment – Free Sate adopted method), May 2006 83
  4.3.4 Gravimetric soil water content (upper 0.15 m soil layer) 87
4.4 Conclusion 88

CHAPTER 5 APPLICATION OF WATER HARVESTING TECHNIQUES IN RANGELAND/LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION SYSTEMS 90

5.1 Background 90
5.2 Baseline Survey 91
  5.2.1 Methods 91
  5.2.2 Results 93
  5.2.3 Conclusion 96
5.3 Fodder Flow Experiment 98
  5.3.1 Introduction 98
  5.3.2 Methods 99
  5.3.3 Results 101
  5.3.4 Discussion 102

CHAPTER 6 SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT 103
6.1 Introduction 103
6.2 Methods 104
  6.2.1 Framework of analyses 104
  6.2.2 The social survey 104
  6.2.3 Focus group discussions 105
  6.2.4 Analysis and interpretation of data 105
6.3 Results and Discussion 106
  6.3.1 Gender and age distribution of the respondents 106
  6.3.2 Impact of the rainwater harvesting project on social status of households 106
  6.3.3 Impact of the rainwater harvesting project on farmers’ organisational structures 110
  6.3.4 Impact of the rainwater harvesting project on surrounding communities 113
  6.3.5 Impact of rainwater harvesting project on economic status of farming households 114
  6.3.6 Effects of the rainwater harvesting project on household food security 116
  6.3.7 Impact of the rainwater harvesting project on the farmers 119
  6.3.8 Impact of the rainwater harvesting project on the surrounding communities 121
  6.3.9 Impact of the rainwater harvesting project on the key buyers of vegetables 125
  6.3.10 Uptake of water harvesting techniques by farmers 127
6.4 Conclusions and Recommendations 127
6.4.1 Conclusions 127
6.4.2 Recommendations 128

CHAPTER 7 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS 129
APPENDIX 1 LITERATURE REVIEW 134
1 Introduction 134
2 Rainwater Harvesting Processes and Design 136
3 Rainwater Harvesting Techniques in Various African Countries 141
4 Rainwater Harvesting in South Africa 149