

GROWTH AND INSTABILITY IN DRYLAND AGRICULTURE OF ANDHRA PRADESH

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines the growth and instability in area, production, yield and also components of output growth of major dryland crops before (1974-1993) and after (1993-2013) the initiation of economic reforms in Andhra Pradesh. Growth rates were estimated by fitting semi-log trend equation. Cuddy Della Valle index was used to measure the instability. Contribution of area and yield towards production growth was made through decomposition. The comparison of production and acreage growth rates in two periods revealed that maize, bengal gram, castor, tobacco, onion and chilli performed better in the second period where, maize, bengal gram and castor registered above 10% growth in production. Growth rates of yields revealed that jowar, bajra, maize, horse gram, groundnut, castor, safflower, cotton, chilli and coriander performed better in the second period. The instability index would show that higher production instabilities were observed in all the crops with the exception of Jowar, ragi, onion and chillies during the second period. The source of output growth is area in case of paddy, jowar, maize, ragi, bengal gram, green gram, horse gram, safflower, and coriander during the second period. The contribution of yield is observed in black gram, groundnut, castor, sugarcane, tobacco, onion, and chilli whereas, area and yield together influenced the output in the case of bajra, red gram and cotton.

KEYWORDS: Andhra Pradesh, Dryland, Growth, Instability, Decomposition

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