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## A STUDY ON AGRICULTURE GROWTH FACTORS IN ANDHRA PRADESH

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### Abstract

Agriculture has been the primary source of income for the state's economy. Andhra Pradesh is an exporter of the many agricultural products. Rice, sugarcane, cotton, capsicum, mango, and tobacco are the local crops. Recently, crops used for oil production like sunflower and peanuts have gained favor. Andhra Pradesh has been historically called because the "Rice Bowl of India" and continues to be the biggest producer of rice within the country. The major crops grown in the State in Kharif season are cotton, paddy, and groundnut and in Rabi season the major crops are sunflower and paddy. The other main crops within the state are Black gram, Tobacco, and Sugarcane.

**Key words:** Agricultural growth, Rice, Cotton, Andhra Pradesh, Growth factors, Major crops.

### 1.0. Introduction:

Andhra Pradesh, the newly formed State in 2014, lies between 77° and 84°40'E longitude and 12°41' and 19.07°N latitude and, and is surrounded by the Bay of Bengal in the East, Tamil Nadu to the south, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, and Orissa in the north, and Karnataka to the west. Among the other states, which are situated on the country's coastal area, Andhra Pradesh is around 974 km coastline and the 2<sup>nd</sup> longest coastline in the country. The Yanam district of Puducherry, lies in the Godavari Delta in the north east of the state as small enclave 12 sq mi (30 km<sup>2</sup>). The state includes the eastern part of Deccan plateau as a part of the Eastern Ghats. Andhra Pradesh state has divided into two regions, namely Coastal Andhra and Rayalaseema and popularly known as the "Rice bowl of India," has huge potential to develop. The State has well developed social, economic and industrial infrastructure and virtual connectivity across the regions. State is good in power and electricity generation, road, airports and seaports. The State of Andhra Pradesh has been blessed with rich natural resources. In the state, while majority of the population (62%) for their livelihood depend on agriculture and related activities, it contributes 36.19% to the Gross State Domestic Product (Andhra, GSDP) at 1.4% growth in the year 2022-23.

### 2.1. Land Use Pattern:

Land is one of the main factors of production. The land use pattern had undergone many changes over the years. Of the total geographical area of 162.97 lakh hectares of the State, the gross cropped area was 67.44 lakh hectares during 2022-23, which worked out to 41.38 per cent. The net area sown had witnessed a gradual increase from 60.38 lakh ha. in 2021-22 to 57.25 lakh ha. in 2022-23. The average of net area sown for preceeding five years to 2022-23 is 59.90 lakh ha. with the percentage of 36.75 in the total geographical area of the state. The details of land use pattern in Andhra Pradesh are presented in the following table -1.



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Table: 1. Land utilization in Andhra Pradesh (in lakh hectares)

Category	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Average of proceeding 5years
	Area	Area	Area	Area	Area	Area	Area	Area
Forests	36.88 (22.63)	36.88 (22.63)	36.88 (22.63)	36.88 (22.63)	36.88 (22.63)	36.88 (22.63)	36.88 (22.63)	36.88 (22.63)
Barren and uncultivated waste	13.46 (8.26)	13.45 (8.25)	13.45 (8.25)	13.36 (8.20)	13.35 (8.19)	13.35 (8.19)	13.35 (8.19)	13.37 (8.20)
Land put to non-agriculture use	20.48 (12.57)	20.55 (12.61)	20.58 (12.63)	20.74 (12.73)	20.80 (12.76)	20.82 (12.78)	20.91 (12.83)	20.77 (12.75)
Cultivable waste	4.14 (2.54)	4.14 (2.54)	4.12 (2.53)	4.12 (2.53)	4.05 (2.49)	4.02 (2.47)	4.03 (2.47)	4.07 (2.50)
Permanent pastures and other grazing lands	2.11 (1.29)	2.09 (1.28)	2.08 (1.28)	2.06 (1.26)	2.03 (1.25)	2.04 (1.25)	2.04 (1.25)	2.05 (1.26)
Other fallow lands	8.60 (5.28)	9.40 (5.77)	9.36 (5.74)	9.25 (5.68)	8.85 (5.43)	8.94 (5.49)	9.52 (5.84)	9.18 (5.64)
Land under miscellaneous tree crops non included in net area sown	1.57 (0.96)	1.55 (0.95)	1.55 (0.95)	1.55 (0.95)	1.53 (0.94)	1.54 (0.94)	1.54 (0.94)	1.54 (0.94)
Current fallow lands	14.96 (9.18)	14.43 (8.86)	14.46 (8.87)	14.52 (8.91)	14.60 (8.96)	15.00 (9.20)	17.45 (10.71)	15.21 (9.33)
Net area sown	60.77 (37.29)	60.48 (37.11)	60.49 (37.12)	60.49 (37.11)	60.88 (37.35)	60.38 (37.05)	57.25 (35.13)	59.90 (36.75)
<b>Total Geographical land</b>	<b>162.97 (100)</b>	<b>162.97 (100)</b>	<b>162.97 (100)</b>	<b>162.97 (100)</b>	<b>162.97 (100)</b>	<b>162.97 (100)</b>	<b>162.97 (100)</b>	<b>162.97 (100)</b>
<b>Gross area sown</b>	<b>74.18 (45.58)</b>	<b>74.45 (45.68)</b>	<b>72.97 (44.77)</b>	<b>72.87 (44.71)</b>	<b>74.07 (45.45)</b>	<b>73.28 (44.97)</b>	<b>67.44 (41.38)</b>	<b>72.13 (44.26)</b>
<b>Area sown more than once</b>	<b>14.80 (9.09)</b>	<b>15.51 (9.52)</b>	<b>14.06 (8.63)</b>	<b>14.03 (8.61)</b>	<b>14.92 (9.16)</b>	<b>14.67 (9.00)</b>	<b>12.08 (7.41) </b>	<b>13.9 (8.56)</b>

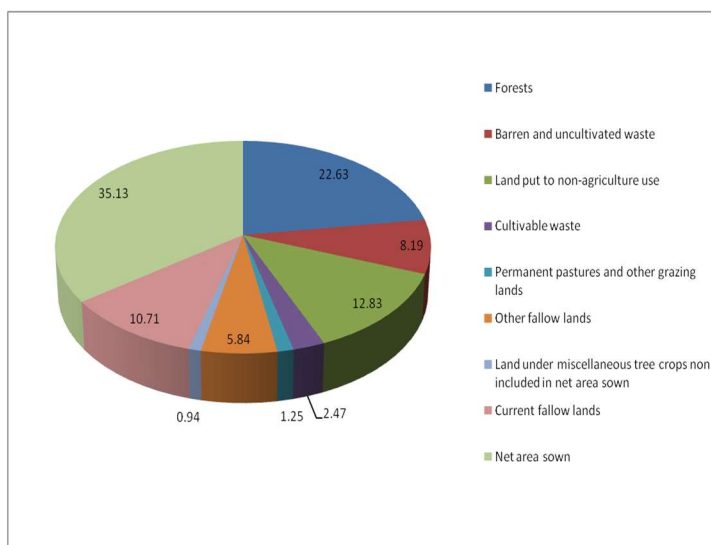


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The cultivable land (i.e. net area sown, current fallow and other fallow lands) was 84.22 lakh hectares and it accounts for 51.68 percent of the total geographical area of the state during 2022-23. Available land for farming but not farmed (i.e. cultivable waste, permanent pasture and other grazing lands and miscellaneous tree crops and groves not included in net area sown) was 7.61 lakh hectares and it accounts for 4.67 percent and land not available for cultivation (forests, barren and uncultivable land and land put to non-agriculture uses) was 71.14 lakh hectares and it accounted for 43.65 percent during 2022-23. The pattern of land use for the year 2022-23 in Andhra Pradesh is presented in the figure - 1.

**Figure: 1. Land Use Pattern of Andhra Pradesh during 2022-23**



## 2.2. Size of Land holdings

In Andhra Pradesh there are 85.24 lakhs of land holdings according to the Agriculture Census 2015-16. These land holdings have 80.04 lakhs of hectares of land under their farming. Majority of the land holdings have been distributed among small and marginal farmers in the state. Even though the small and marginal farmers occupied a major share of more than 88 percent of the total land holdings, they were operating only about 58 per cent of the total area. The semi-medium, medium and large farmers accounting for a small proportion of 12 per cent of the holdings had operated a higher proportion of 42 per cent of the total area. The average size of holding was higher at 18.40 hectare in the case of large farmers followed by medium farmers (5.49 ha.).

**Table - 2: Trends in land holdings, Area Operated and Percentage**

Type of farmer	Size of holding in hectares	Number of holdings in lakhs	Area of holdings in lakh hectares	% of holdings to total holdings	% of area to total area
Marginal	Below 1.0	59.04	23.36	69.27	29.19
Small	1.0 - 2.0	16.46	23.34	19.31	29.16
Semi-Medium	2.0 - 4.0	7.69	20.20	9.03	25.23
Medium	4.0 - 10.0	1.89	10.38	2.22	12.97
Large	10.0 & above	0.15	2.76	0.17	3.45
<b>Total</b>		<b>85.24</b>	<b>80.04</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

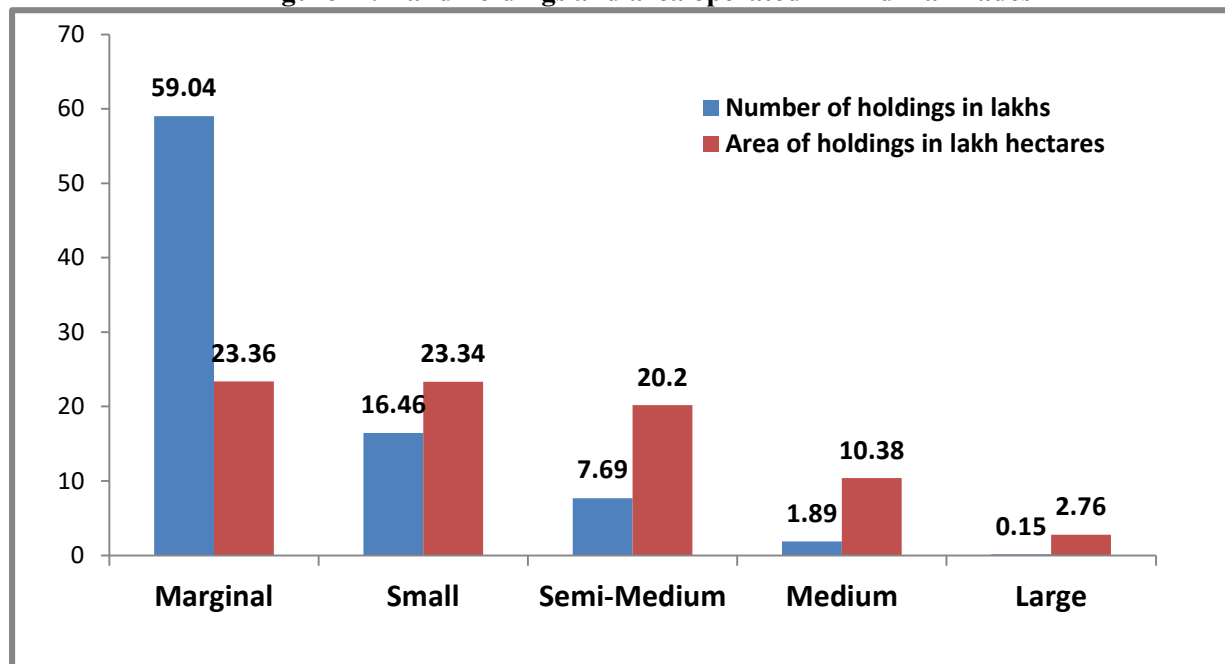
☞ Source: Commissioner of Agriculture, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh.



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Figure -2: Land holdings and area operated in Andhra Pradesh



### 2.3. Season-wise Rain fall in Andhra Pradesh:

The overall area coverage, production and productivity depend on the timely onset of the monsoon and good rainfall in the State. The State had experienced favourable seasonal conditions during the initial period of 2022-23. Andhra Pradesh receives more rainfall during South-West monsoons. It helps much more to store water in the reservoirs in the State. The Season wise rainfall of the state is presented in table-3.

Table – 3 : Season-wise Rainfall in Andhra Pradesh (in mms.)

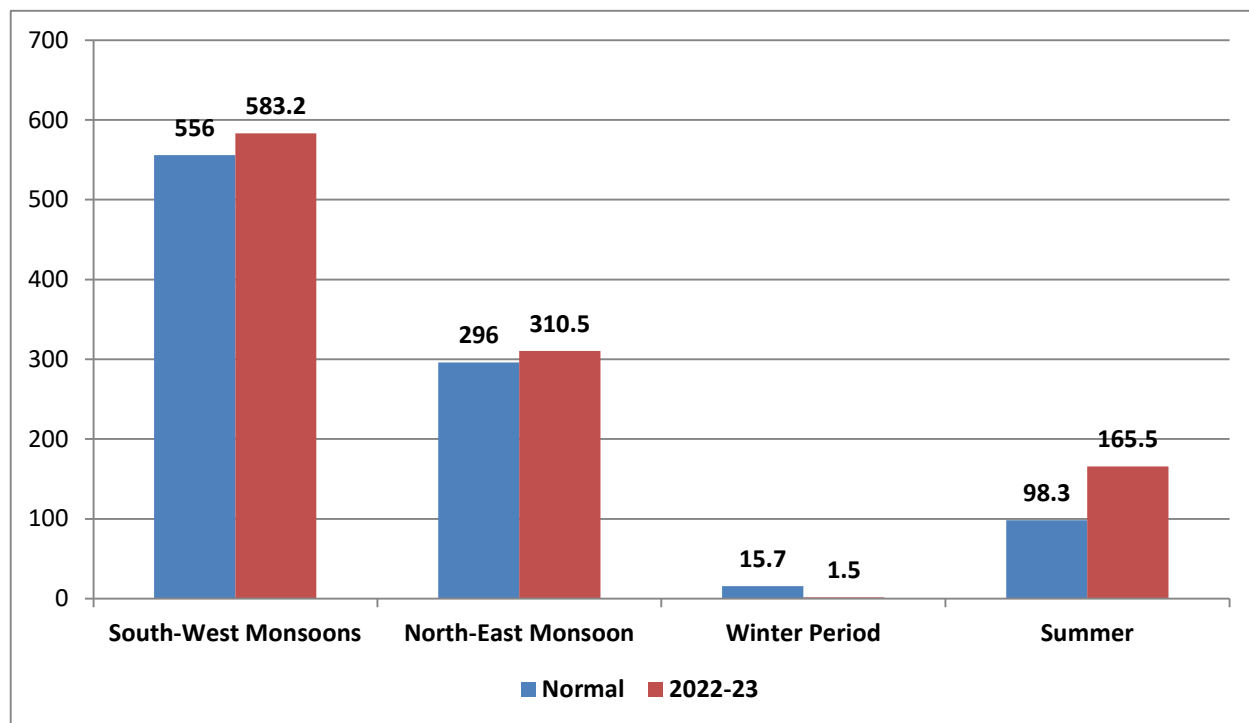
Sl. No	Season	Normal	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	% dev. over normal	Status
1	South-West Monsoons (June to Sep)	556.0	533.8	567.1	456.6	532.9	704.8	607.3	583.2	1.5	Normal
2	North-East Monsoon (Oct to Dec)	296.0	85.3	177.5	124.1	245.8	370.3	368.2	310.5	8.8	Normal
3	Winter Period (Jan to Feb)	15.7	0.0	0.1	10.2	21.1	20.6	23.0	1.5	-90.6	Scanty
4	Summer (March to May)	98.3	0.0	0.0	44.1	74.7	95.3	106.6	165.5	66.6	Excess
Grand Total		966.0	619.1	744.7	635.0	874.5	1191.0	1105.1	1060.6	8.7	Normal



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Figure – 3: Season-wise rainfall in the state during 2022-23 (in mm.)



#### 2.4. Sources of Irrigation:

The state of Andhra Pradesh is blessed with Godavari, Krishna and Pennar rivers and about 40 major and medium rivers which contribute to the major part of the surface waters. The state has different irrigation sources spread over the thirteen districts, according to different sources of irrigation and different crops. Canals, tanks, tube wells and dug wells are the main sources of irrigation in Andhra Pradesh. As the canals and the wells are contributing major source of irrigation and tanks also provide water facilities in many parts of the state.

Total Net area irrigated by all sources during 2022-23 was 28.56 lakh hectares as against 27.19 lakh hectares in 2016-17 showing an increase of 1.37 lakh hectares. It denotes that net area irrigated during 2022-23 was 44.08 percent of net area sown under canals in the State as against 45.05 percent in 2016-17 showing a decrease of 0.97 percent. The net area irrigated by tanks and wells constituted 52.42 percent of total net area irrigated during 2022-23 where as 51.44 percent of total net area was cultivated during 2016-17. The net area irrigated under other sources was 1.00 lakh hectares of during 2022-23. The source wise net area irrigated is given in Table-4.



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**Table – 4: Net area irrigated by different sources (in lakh hectares)**

Sources of irrigation	Net area irrigated							Average of preceding 5 years
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	
Canals	12.25 (45.05)	11.87 (42.96)	13.03 (46.60)	13.56 (47.19)	13.56 (46.19)	13.44 (45.53)	12.59 (44.08)	13.43 (46.31)
Tanks	2.36 (8.68)	2.96 (10.71)	2.32 (8.30)	2.87 (9.97)	2.99 (10.18)	3.10 (10.50)	2.76 (9.66)	2.86 (9.86)
Wells	11.60 (42.74)	11.74 (42.49)	11.45 (40.95)	11.19 (38.88)	11.72 (39.92)	11.90 (40.31)	12.21 (42.76)	11.60 (40.00)
Other sources	0.96 (3.53)	1.06 (3.84)	1.16 (4.15)	1.16 (4.03)	1.09 (3.71)	1.08 (3.66)	1.00 (3.50)	1.11 (3.83)
Total net area irrigated	27.19 (100.00)	27.63 (100.00)	27.96 (100.00)	28.78 (100.00)	29.36 (100.00)	29.52 (100.00)	28.56 (100.00)	29.00 (100.00)
Area irrigated more than once	8.63 (31.74)	9.67 (35.00)	8.39 (30.01)	9.35 (32.49)	10.49 (35.73)	9.64 (32.66)	8.00 (28.01)	9.53 (32.86)

**Source:** Seasons and Crop Reports of Andhra Pradesh

**Note:** Figures in parentheses indicate percentages

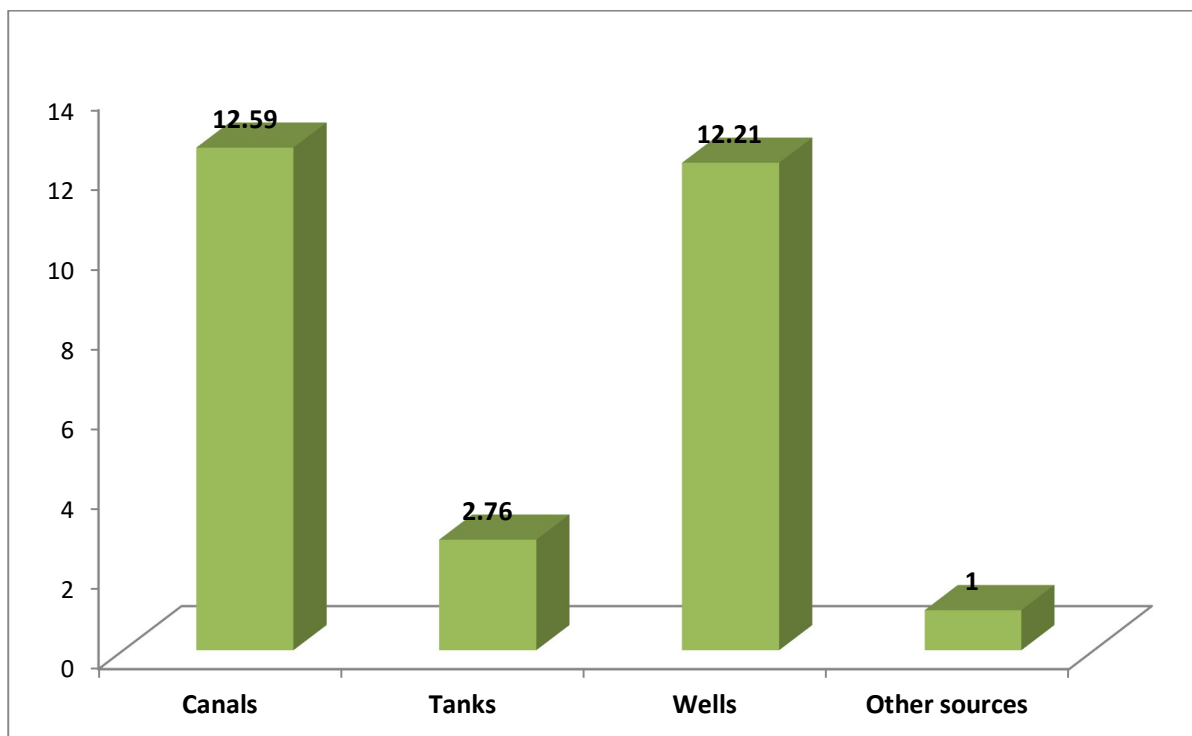
The net area irrigated by Canals, Tanks, Wells and Other sources in the state during 2022-23 is shown in figure-4. It is also shown the area irrigated more than once in the figure. Canals are the major source of irrigation in Andhra Pradesh. During 2022-23, Canal irrigation contributed 44.08 percent of the net area irrigated by all sources of the state. The net area irrigated under canals during the year 2022-23 was 12.59 lakh hectares as against 13.44 lakh hectares in 2021-22 recording a decrease of 0.85 percent.



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Figure – 4: Net area irrigated by different sources in Andhra Pradesh during 2022-23



## 2.4. Cropping Pattern:

Cropping pattern means the proportionate area under different crops during an agriculture year. Paddy, wheat, Millets, Pulses, Condiments & spices, Sugarcane, Vegetables and Fruits constitute food crops in Andhra Pradesh. Paddy is the major staple crop. Non-food crops constitute Fibres, Oilseeds, Pulp & timber, Drugs and narcotics including Tobacco, Fodder crops, Green manure crops, Aromatic plants, Flowers and others. The gross cropped area under all crops is to 36.56 lakh hectares during 2022-23 as against 39.16 lakh hectares in 2021-22, showing a decrease of 2.60 percent. The area under different crops and their percentage to total cropped area during 2020-21 and the average of preceding 5 years is given in table-5.





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Table - 5: Gross area irrigated and percentage of area irrigated to total area (Area in lakh hectares)

S.No	Crop	Total area irrigated under the crop (ha. in lakhs)			% of area irrigated to Total area irrigated			% of area irrigated to total area under the concerned crop		
		Average preceding 5 years	2022-23	2021-22	Average preceding 5 years	2022-23	2021-22	Average preceding 5 years	2022-23	2021-22
1	Paddy	22.99	20.70	24.21	60.25	56.63	61.82	98.84	97.23	97.46
2	Wheat	0.00	N	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Jowar	0.56	0.39	0.45	1.47	1.06	1.15	43.41	55.71	58.44
4	Bajra	0.09	0.07	0.07	0.24	0.19	0.18	29.03	28.03	23.33
5	Maize	2.28	2.84	2.45	5.97	7.78	6.26	73.79	73.77	71.64
6	Ragi	0.08	0.05	0.08	0.21	0.14	0.20	24.24	19.31	0.27
Major millets		3.01	3.35	3.05	7.89	9.17	7.79	59.84	66.07	63.67
Minor millets		0.02	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.07	0.18	10.53	23.84	20.31
Total major & minor millets		3.03	3.38	3.08	7.94	9.24	7.87	58.05	45.05	63.64
Total Cereals & millets		26.02	24.08	27.29	68.19	65.87	69.69	90.19	90.97	93.90
7	Bengal gram	0.08	0.01	0.01	0.21	0.03	0.03	1.67	0.03	0.21
8	Red gram	0.05	0.02	0.02	0.13	0.06	0.05	1.99	0.83	0.79
9	Green gram	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.10	0.04	0.05	3.42	13.89	2.00
10	Black gram	0.27	0.30	0.35	0.71	0.84	0.89	7.38	8.70	8.52
11	Horse gram	0.00	N	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.55
12	Cow gram	0.00	0.01	0	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	1.39	0.00
13	Other pulses	0.00	N	0	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	3.87
Total pulses		0.44	0.35	0.40	1.15	0.95	1.02	3.38	3.39	3.15
Total food grains		26.46	24.43	27.69	69.34	66.82	70.71	63.21	66.39	65.05
14	Chillies	1.58	2.47	2.16	4.14	6.75	5.52	94.61	95.74	95.97
15	Onion	0.24	0.32	0.23	0.63	0.88	0.59	88.89	72.73	80.84
16	Sugarcane	1.12	0.57	0.70	2.94	1.57	1.79	85.50	93.44	91.46
Other food crops		4.13	4.63	4.10	10.82	12.66	10.46	53.36	57.66	53.97
Total food crops		33.53	32.42	34.88	87.87	88.68	89.07	63.42	66.90	65.25
17	Ground nut	1.26	1.16	1.26	3.30	3.18	3.22	16.41	19.70	15.28
18	Sesamum	0.08	0.05	0.07	0.21	0.13	0.18	19.51	15.15	17.40
19	Sunflower	0.06	0.10	0.09	0.16	0.27	0.23	46.15	47.62	44.83
20	Coconut	0.46	0.46	0.47	1.21	1.27	1.20	43.81	45.10	44.09
21	Other oil seeds	0.92	0.98	0.9	0.41	2.67	2.30	71.32	55.51	76.83
Total oil seeds		2.78	2.75	2.79	7.29	7.52	7.12	26.33	30.12	25.16
22	Tobacco	0.28	0.18	0.23	0.73	0.50	0.59	37.33	31.03	40.24
23	Cotton	0.97	0.61	0.65	2.54	1.67	1.66	15.72	8.66	11.74
24	Fodder crops	0.15	0.13	0.15	0.39	0.34	0.38	29.41	39.39	38.88
25	Other non-food	0.45	0.47	0.46	1.18	1.29	1.17	16.73	24.74	19.25
Total non-food crops		4.63	4.14	4.28	12.13	11.32	10.93	22.39	36.56	21.61
Total Gross area irrigated		38.16	36.56	39.16	100.00	100.00	100.00	51.90	54.21	53.45

Source: Various Seasons and Crop Reports of Andhra Pradesh.

## 2.5. Crop-wise Production of Food grains in Andhra Pradesh:

Crop-wise production of food grains in lakh tones from 2016-17 to 2022-23 is presented in the Table-6. Paddy is the major food crop of Andhra Pradesh as the table reflects 120.03 lakh tonnes of production of total food grains in 2016-17 and 126.30 lakh tones in 2022-23. Maize occupies next place with the production of 16.53 lakh tones during the year 2016-17 and 27.51 lakh tones in 2022-23. It is also observed that Paddy stood in first with 125.39 lakh tones of production





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followed by Maize with 18.37 lakh tones during 2021-22. Bengal gram is produced during 2016-17 at 3.81 lakh tones and increased to 4.68 lakh tones in 2022-23.

Table – 6: Crop-wise production of food grains

Crop	Crop-wise production of food grains (in lakh tones)							Average of preceding 5 years
	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	
Paddy	120.03	126.91	123.52	137.10	130.89	125.39	126.30	128.58
Jowar	1.98	3.33	2.29	3.89	4.10	2.59	2.83	2.94
Bajra	0.72	0.93	0.23	0.59	0.70	0.55	0.49	0.60
Ragi	0.35	0.44	0.43	0.44	0.39	0.31	0.32	0.41
Maize	16.53	23.26	15.63	21.21	17.84	18.37	27.51	19.11
Korra	0.15	0.12	0.03	0.18	0.11	0.10	0.08	0.11
Varagu	0.06	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.02	0	0.02
Samai	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02
Red Gram	1.33	1.20	0.46	1.19	0.84	0.46	0.78	0.88
Bengal Gram	3.81	5.89	2.43	5.59	5.32	4.79	4.68	4.89
Green Gram	0.66	0.93	0.84	0.86	0.81	0.96	0.73	0.84
Black Gram	3.29	3.71	3.11	3.29	3.65	4.31	4.31	3.53
Horse Gram	0.06	0.22	0.38	0.56	0.14	0.08	0.07	0.27
Cow Gram	0.05	0.10	0.08	0.06	0.09	0.08	0.16	0.08
Other Pulses	0.11	0.14	0.10	0.12	0.09	0.06	0.14	0.08
<b>Total Food Grains</b>	<b>149.16</b>	<b>167.22</b>	<b>149.56</b>	<b>175.12</b>	<b>165.04</b>	<b>158.90</b>	<b>168.41</b>	<b>162.36</b>

☞ **Source:** Various Season and Crop Reports, Andhra Pradesh.

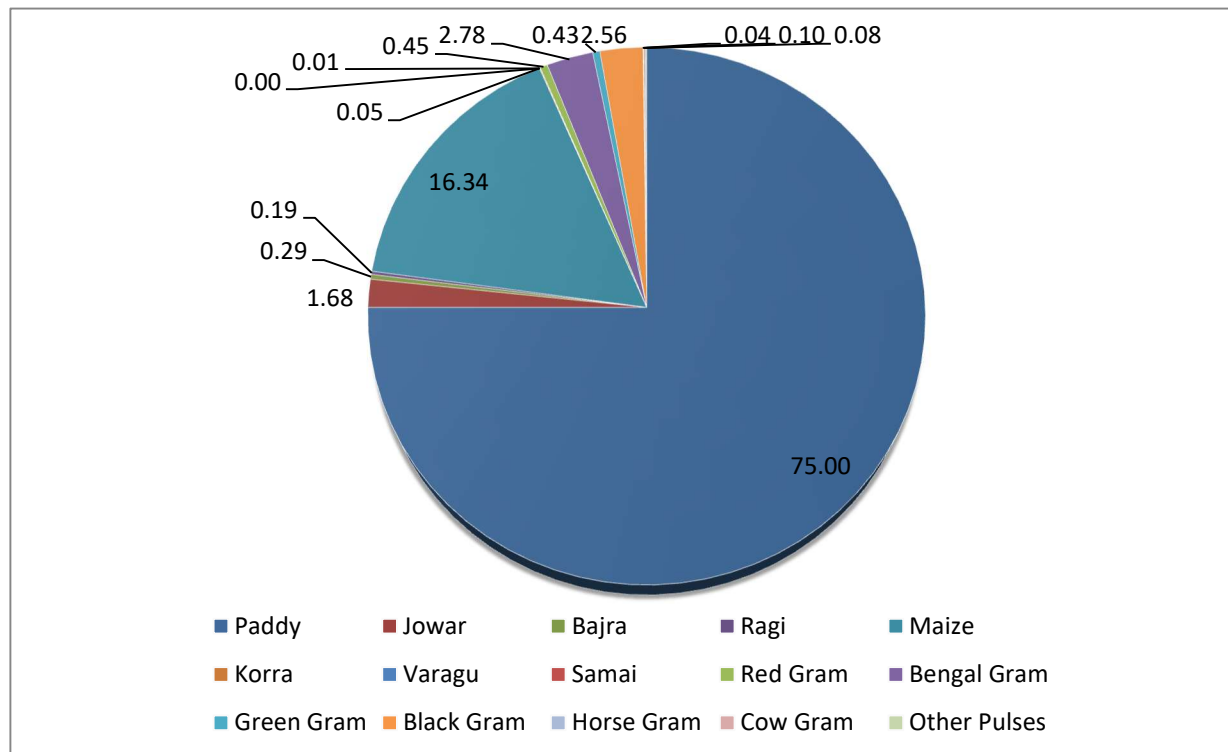
It is obvious from the table-6 that the production of total food grains is 168.41 lakh tones during 2022-23 whereas 149.16 lakh tones during 2016-17 in the state. It is observed that there was an increase of 19.25 lakh tonnes from 2016-17 to 2022-23 in the production of total food grains. The table also reveals that there was increase in production of Maize during 2022-23 at 10.98 lakh tonnes when compared to 2016-17. It is shown that the production of Bengal gram and Black gram as 4.68 and 4.31 lakh tonnes during 2022-23 whereas 3.81 and 3.29 lakh tonnes respectively in 2016-17. It is also observed that there is increase in the production of Green gram, Red gram, Horse pulses and other pulses during 2022-23 when compared to the previous year 2016-17.



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Figure - 5: Percentage of crop wise production of food grains



## 2.6. Performance of Principal Crops in Andhra Pradesh:

The growth in the production of agricultural crops depends on many factors such as area cropped, input management and yield. The cropped area and productivity are determined by the fertility of soil, monsoon behaviour, rainfall, irrigation, availability of agricultural labourers, climatic changes, prices etc. The major crops like paddy, coarse cereals and pulses, groundnut, cotton and sugarcane accounted for more than 70 per cent of the gross cropped area of the State. Production of Paddy has been increasing from 1985-86, marked by sporadic instability. It reached the maximum level in the year 2022-23 (126.30 lakh tonnes). However, in the years 2021-22 and 2022-23, there was a decline in its production. The yield of rice too was in the peak in 2022-23 (5937 kgs. per hectare).

The cropped area, yield and production of major crops of Andhra Pradesh are presented in the following table -7.

Table -7: Area, Yield and Production of Major Crops from 2016-17 to 2022-23

Crop	Variables	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Average of preceeding 5 years
Paddy	Area	21.05	22.18	22.08	23.56	25.52	24.21	20.70	22.99
	Yield	5702	5722	5593	5819	5130	5047	5937	5138
	Production	120.03	126.91	123.52	137.10	130.89	125.39	126.30	128.58



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<b>Jowar</b>	Area Yield Production	0.97 2036 1.98	1.40 2382 3.33	1.56 1474 2.29	1.55 2510 3.89	1.20 3428 4.10	0.45 3369 2.59	0.39 4047 2.83	0.56 3211 2.94
<b>Maize</b>	Area Yield Production	2.50 6604 16.53	3.36 6911 23.26	2.66 5872 15.63	3.01 7055 21.21	3.01 5918 17.84	2.45 5549 18.97	2.84 7138 27.51	2.28 5894 19.11
<b>Red gram</b>	Area Yield Production	3.50 381 1.33	2.80 430 1.20	2.50 182 0.46	2.43 486 1.19	2.31 363 0.84	2.52 271 0.68	2.42 323 0.78	2.51 327 0.88
<b>Green gram</b>	Area Yield Production	1.34 493 0.66	1.39 661 0.93	1.21 701 0.84	1.07 806 0.86	1.05 772 0.81	1.14 845 0.96	0.73 1010 0.73	1.17 797 0.84
<b>Onion</b>	Area Yield Production	0.36 17827 6.33	0.25 -- 9.16	0.30 - 9.81	0.27 -- 7.80	0.27 - 7.77	0.28 -- 8.23	0.44 -- 7.69	0.27 -- 7.85
<b>Ground nut</b>	Area Yield Production	10.13 595 6.03	7.35 1426 10.48	7.48 617 4.62	6.61 1285 8.50	8.69 891 7.74	8.25 625 7.14	5.94 1011 6.97	7.67 736 6.52
<b>Sun Flower</b>	Area Yield Production	0.21 1006 0.21	0.09 1276 0.12	0.13 689 0.09	0.09 944 0.08	0.13 694 0.09	0.20 603 0.08	0.21 841 0.07	0.13 784 0.13
<b>Cotton</b>	Area Yield Production	4.72 563 15.64	6.46 549 20.88	6.20 408 14.91	6.57 648 25.02	6.06 449 16.00	5.54 391 17.6	7.04 374 16.9	6.17 438 15.97
<b>Sugar cane</b>	Area Yield Production	1.03 76220 70.30	0.99 78683 77.83	1.02 79359 80.57	0.86 78159 67.15	0.55 75248 41.35	0.47 77550 51.34	0.40 76208 63.56	0.78 77857 79.48

**Source:** Various Season and Crop Reports, Andhra Pradesh.

**Note:** Area in lakh hectares; production in lakh tonnes, yield in kgs/hectares



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### 3.0. Conclusions:

The growth in the production of agricultural crops depends on many factors such as area cropped, input management and yield. The cropped area and productivity are determined by the fertility of soil, monsoon behaviour, rainfall, irrigation, availability of agricultural labourers, climatic changes, prices etc. The major crops like paddy, coarse cereals and pulses, groundnut, cotton and sugarcane accounted for more than 70 per cent of the gross cropped area of the State.

- It is found that the Gross area sown during 2016-17 was 74.18 lakh. ha. with 45.58 percent of total geographical area of the state. It is also observed that there was a decline of 4.2 percent in Gross area sown in 2022-23
- The area with Forests remains same with 22.63 percent of total geographical area from 2016-17 to 2022-23. It is also seen that Land put to non-agricultural use, other fallow land, current fallow lands had an increase.
- Majority of the land holdings (69.27%) are under Marginal farmers out of total land holdings in the state.
- Andhra Pradesh receives more rainfall during South-west monsoons. The state had experienced favourable seasonal conditions of rainfall from 2016-17 to 2022-23.
- The total net area irrigated by different sources in the state was 27.19 lakh. ha. during 2016-17 and it had increased to 28.56 lakh. ha. during 2022-23. It is also found that Canals and Tanks are the major source of irrigation in the state.
- The total production of food grains during 2016-17 was 149.16 lakh. tons. Whereas 168.41 lakh. tons in 2022-23. Paddy is the prominent crop in the state and stands in first place with the production of 126.30 lakh. tons where maize in second place with 27.51 lakh. tons in the state.

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