

Cropping Pattern Changes in Andhra Pradesh

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Introduction

- Understanding cropping pattern (share of area under different crops), changes in cropping pattern and the factors responsible for change are important
- Changes in cropping pattern in two villages (Pamidipadu and JC Agraharam) of Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh are studied.

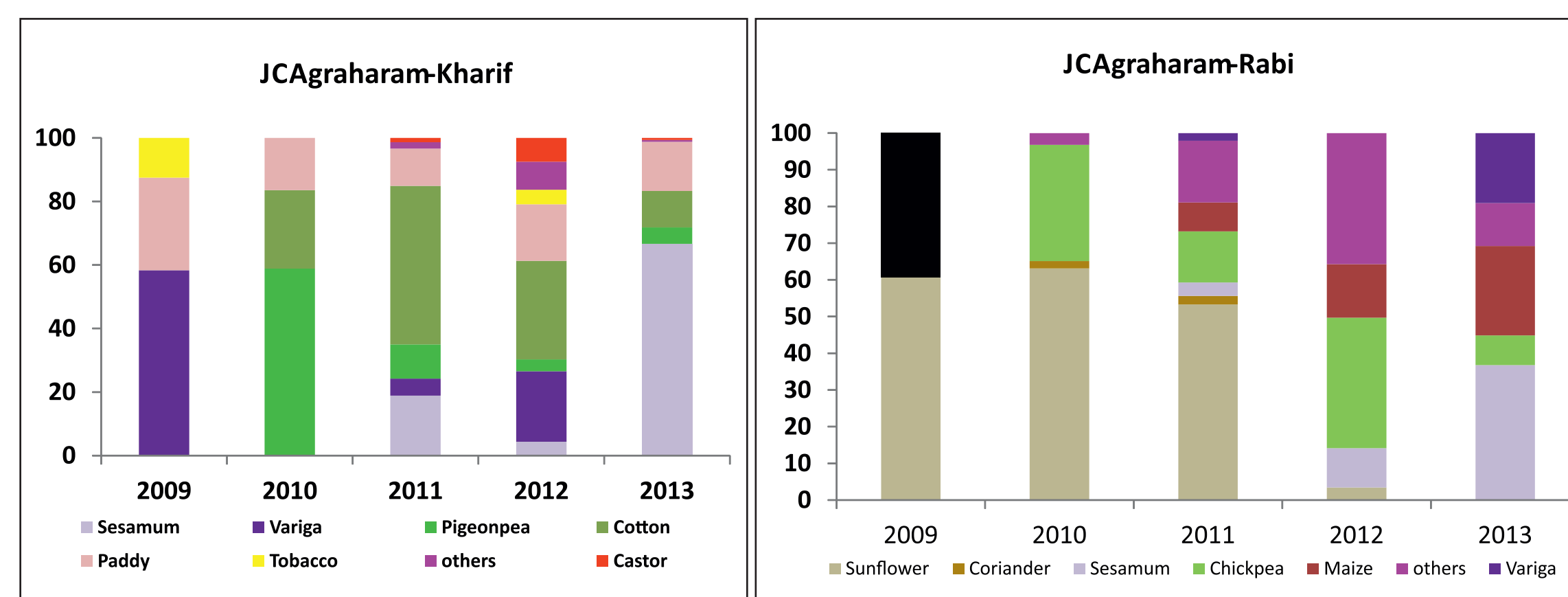
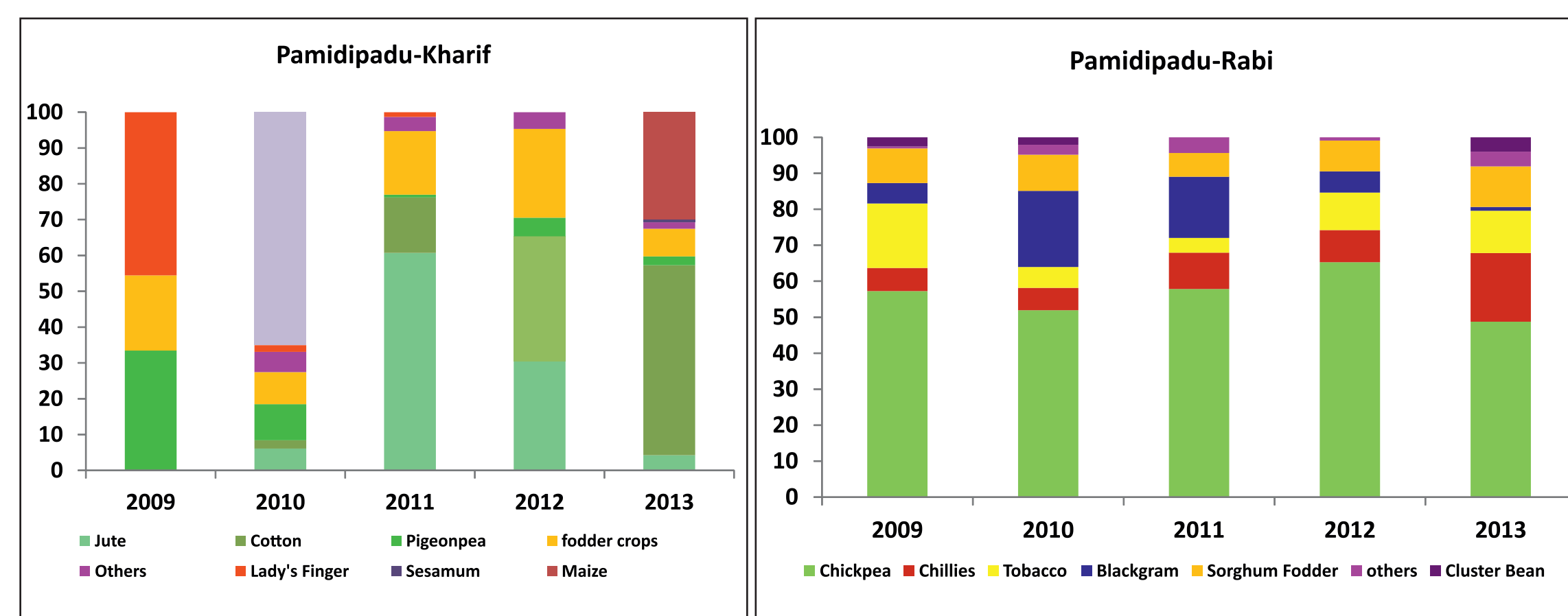
Objectives

- To analyze the changes in cropping pattern during the last five years (2009/10 to 2013/14) in Prakasam villages of Andhra Pradesh
- To examine the role of productivity, profitability and labor requirement in changes in cropping pattern.

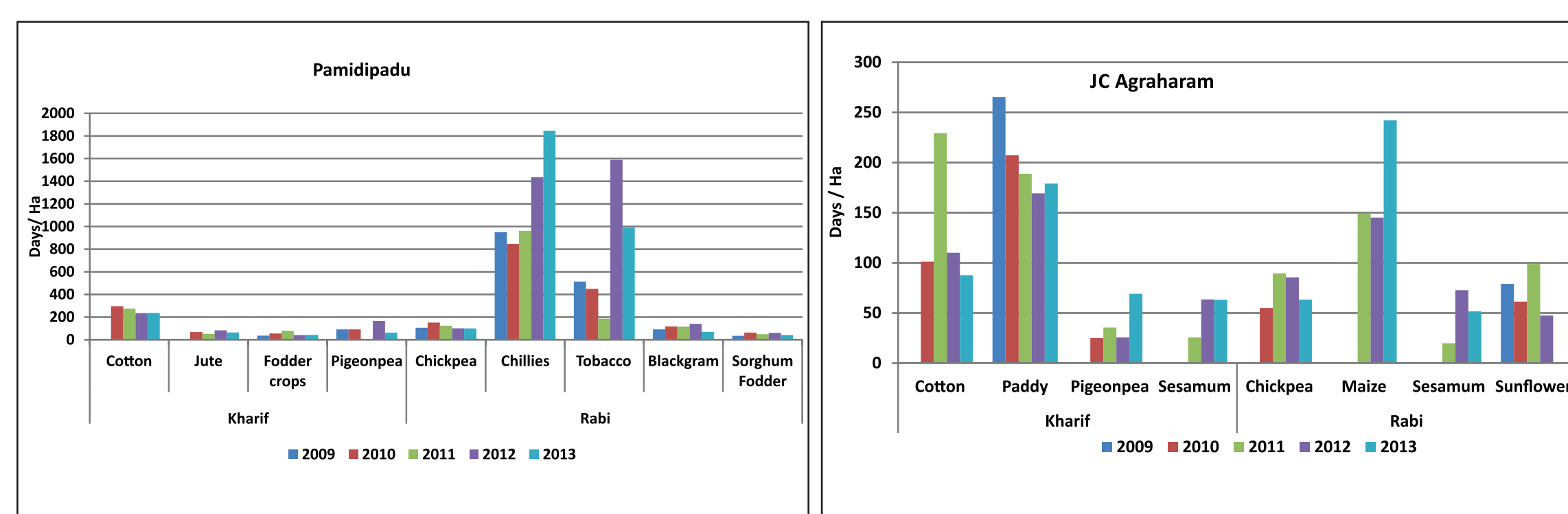
Data and methodology

- VDSA panel household survey data: 2009/10-2013/14
- Cropping seasons: Kharif and Rabi.

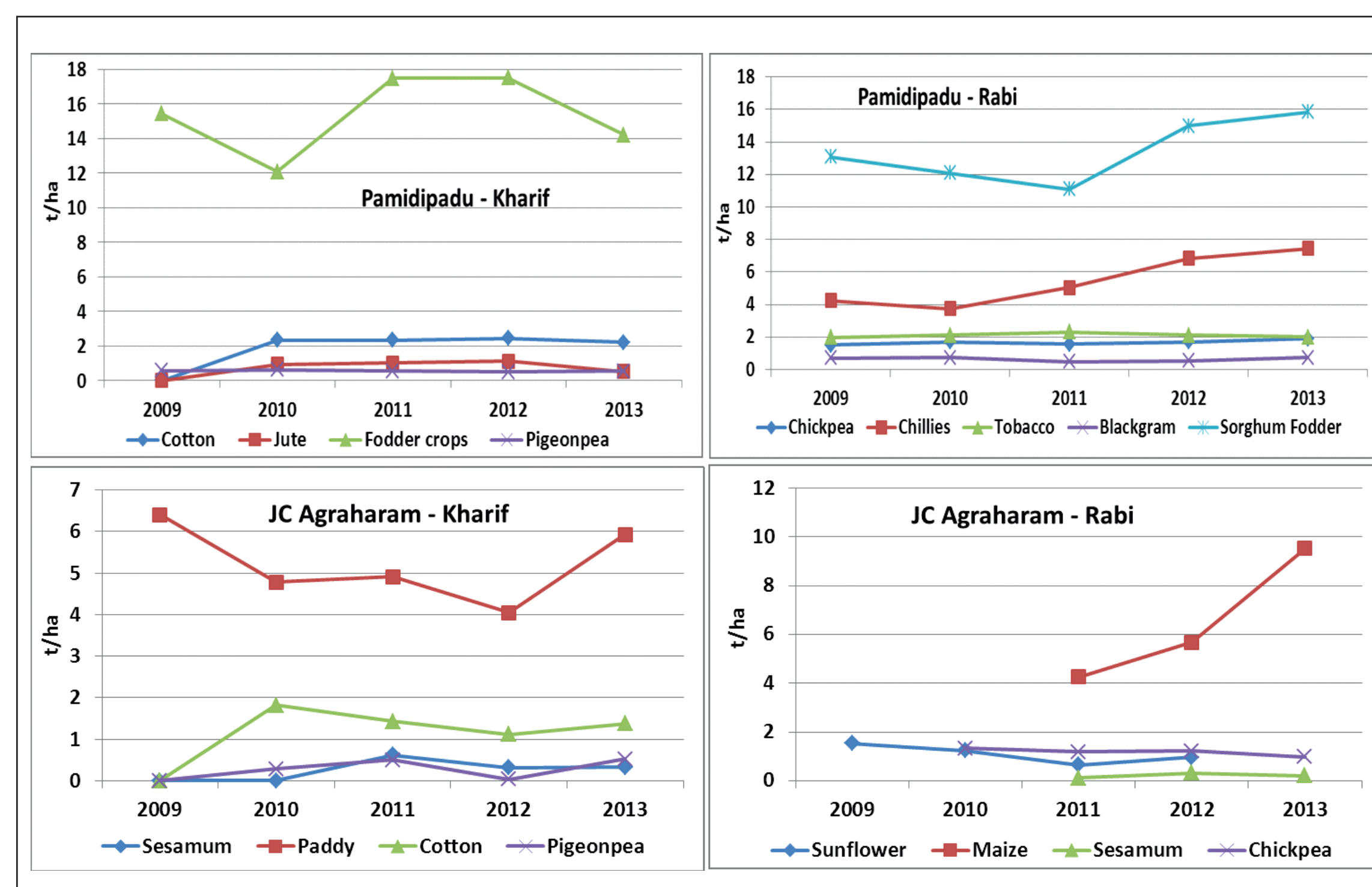
Cropping pattern



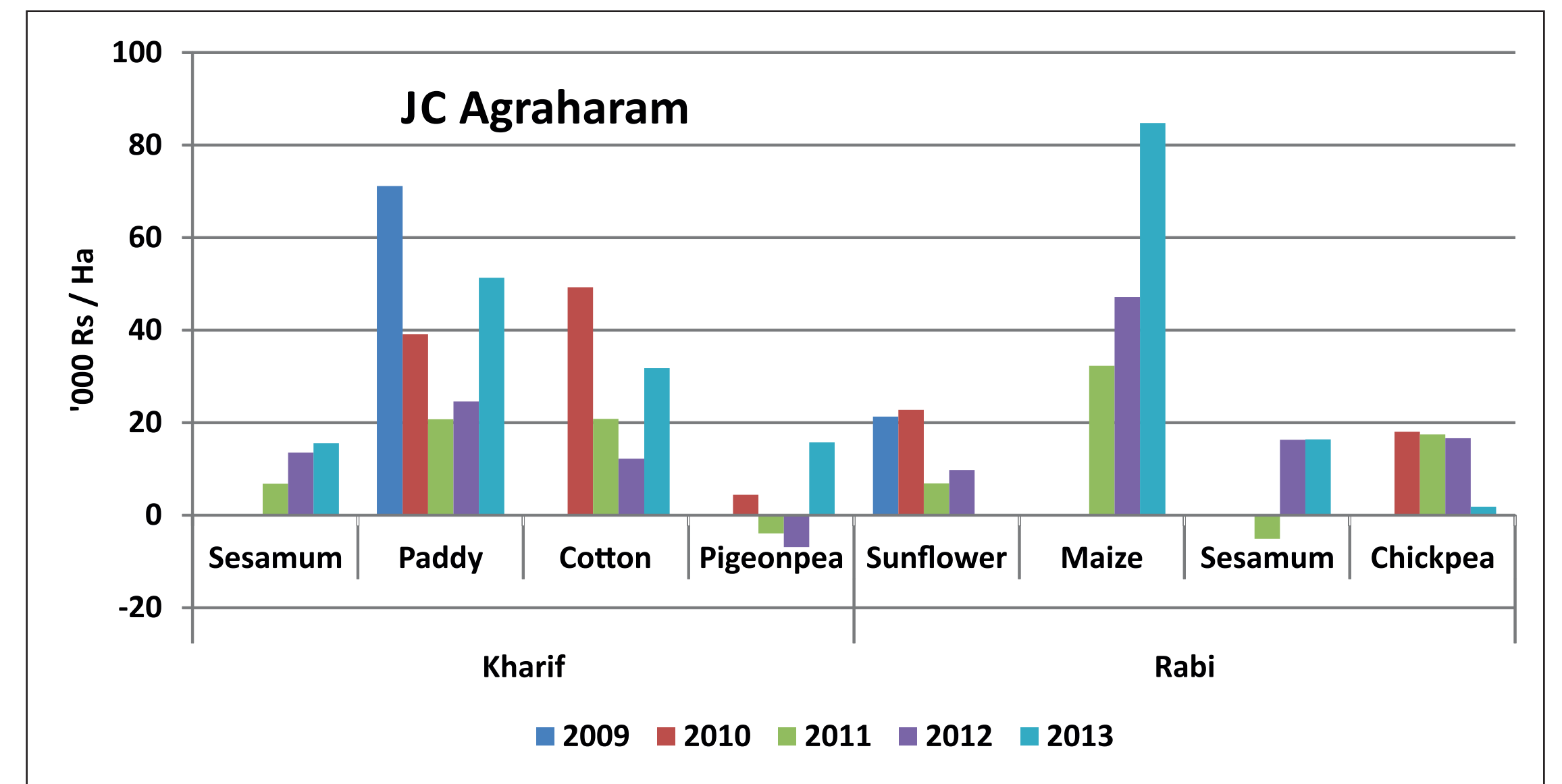
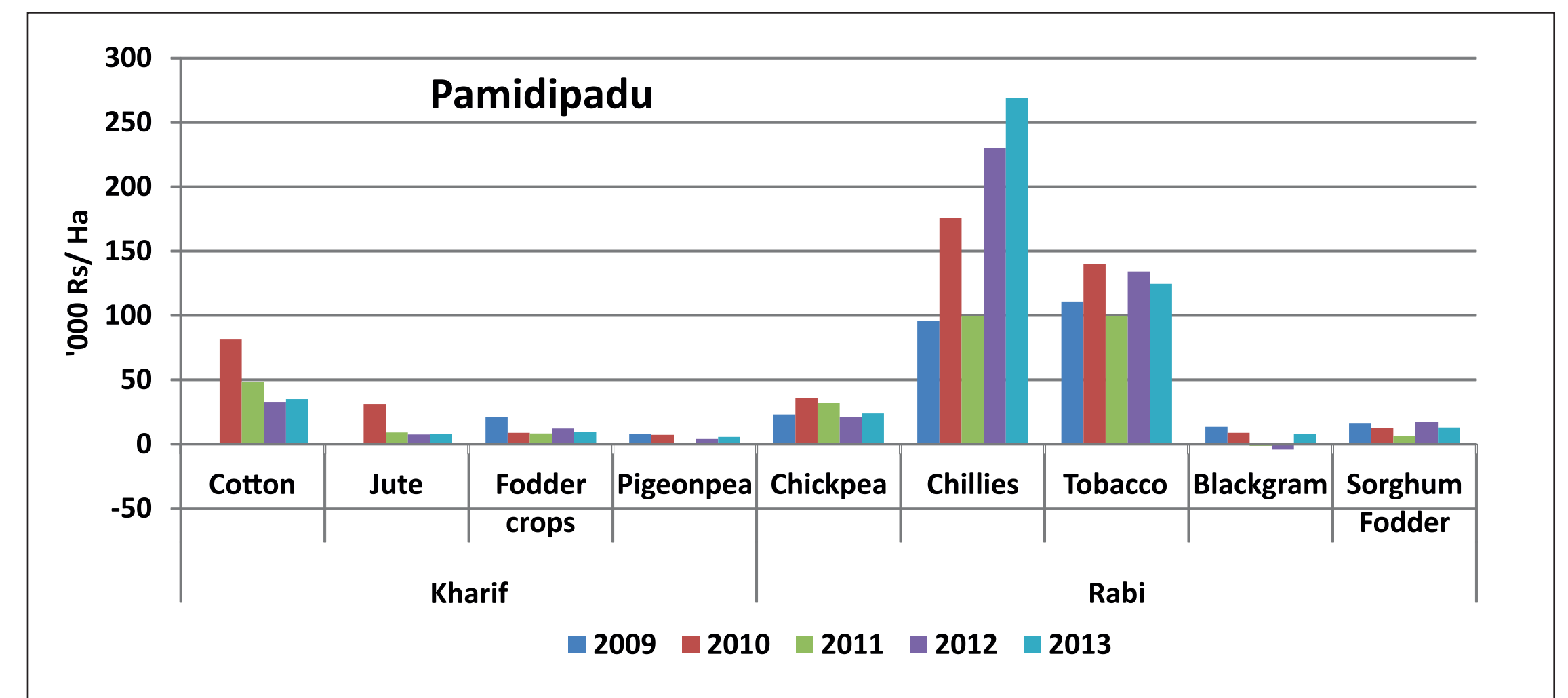
Trends in labor Use (days/ha) in crop production



Crop productivity (t/ha)



Profitability (₹/ha)



Results

Cropping pattern:

Pamidipadu:

Kharif: Cotton area share increased from 2% to 53%. Share of Jute area to the total cropped area has increased from 6% to 30% over the last five years. Pigeonpea area has gone down from 33% to 2.5%, Sorghum fodder area decreased from 21% to 8% and Lady fingers at 45% in 2009 is absent now. Farmers started maize cultivation in 2013 (34% area).

Rabi: Chickpea area share dropped from 57% to 49%, Chillies area share has increased from 6% to 19% from 2009 to 2013. Decreasing trends were observed in Tobacco (18% to 12%) over past five year survey period. Chillies and black gram are the other crops grown.

JCAgraharam:

Kharif: Sesamum area has expanded to 67% and cotton area share rose from 24% to 31% over the last five years. Paddy area share has declined from 29% to 15% and Pigeonpea share from 58% to 5%.

Rabi: Maize area has increased to 24% and Sesamum to 37%. Sunflower area has dropped from 60% to nil over the last five years. Chickpea, variga, coriander, paddy are the other crops grown.

Drivers of change:

Farmers preference to chillies, inspite of high risk of price fluctuation is due to high returns (₹269,255 per hectare in 2013) and increasing productivity

Tobacco area declined due to government ban on barn license, high cost of inputs

Maize area increase is driven by growth in productivity and profitability. Seed companies provide the seed at farmers door and collect the produce at remunerative price.

Conclusion

Changes in cropping pattern were driven by the net income per hectare. Increased productivity was the main factor behind increased profit in crop production. As long as farmers receive higher profit, they are ready to use required amount of labor for crop production.