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Evaluation of forest restoration costs on degraded areas and legal reserves in Sinop-Brazil

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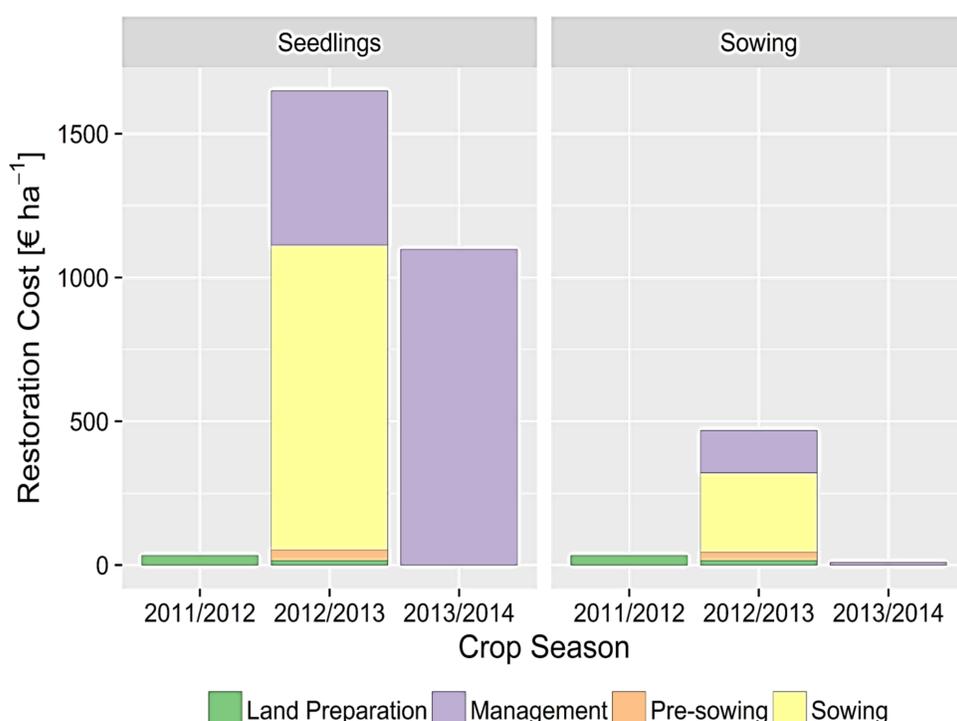
1. Introduction

Since 2008, Brazilian landowners are required by law to maintain the Legal Reserve, a mandatory practice instrument that defines a certain share of land (from 20% to 80%, depending on the region) that should be left in forest or its native vegetation for biodiversity conservation. The aim of this study is measure the deployment and maintenance costs of forest restoration strategies in Sinop, Mato Grosso.

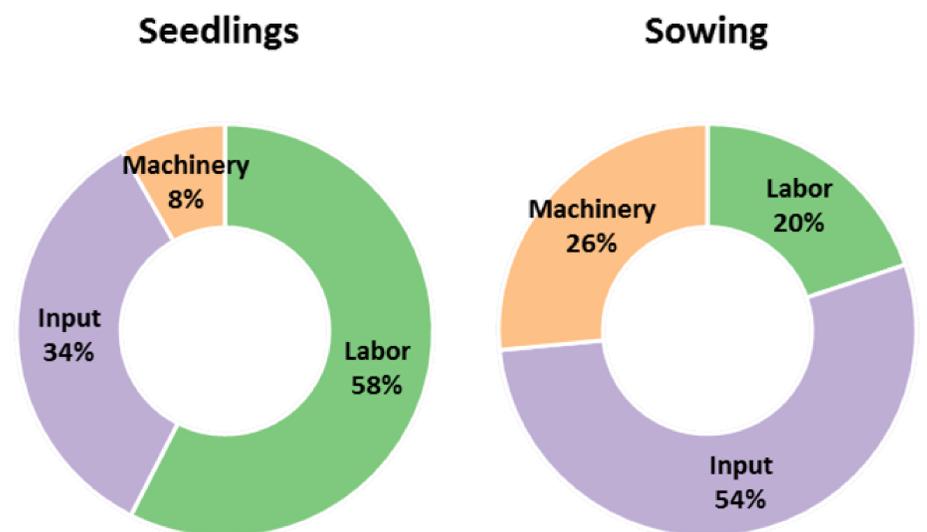
2. Material & Methods

This study is part of the project “Forest restoration of degraded areas as production systems in Legal Reserves in the Amazon/Cerrado buffer zone and in the Cerrado”, led by Embrapa. To estimate the costs it was used the Embrapa experimental field located in Sinop. Field activities were monitored over three years for ten different forest restoration strategies.

3. Results & Discussion



Seedling strategies presented higher costs than Sowing, which can be explained by: (1) Seedling price; (2) manual weed control and (3) labor demand.



Seedlings strategies are more intensive in labor while sowing strategies employ most of their resources in inputs.

4. Conclusion and Outlook

Restoration strategies should be in line with farmer's objective. The adoption of seedling techniques is conditioned to the sustainable use potential forest products (timber and non-timber), which might be an alternative for additional income to Mato Grosso farmers.

5. References

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