ABSTRACT

This report deals with the soil and land resources of Mezhuveli panchayat of Kozhencherry taluk of Pathanamthitta district. The report gives a detailed account of the general characteristics of the panchayat viz., area, soils of the area, major problems and management requirements, interpretations and recommendations for various uses.

Mezhuveli panchayat comprising an area of 1444 ha is located in Kozhencherry taluk of Pathanamthitta district. The panchayat has a garden land area of 1122 ha. Wet land area in the panchayat is 307 ha of which 128 ha have been converted for the cultivation of upland crops and rest of the area is cultivated to paddy. Garden land area is mainly cultivated to rubber and crops like coconut, tapioca, banana, arecanut, cashew etc.

During the course of Detailed Soil Survey of the panchayat, 4 soil series were identified. Of this, the major series in the garden land is Chethakkal (705 ha), followed by Puthenpeedika (417 ha). Of the wetland series encountered, the major portion is covered by Mallassery series (107.4 ha) followed by Airavon (71.6 ha).

Land capability classes noticed in the panchayat are IIIw, Ille, IVe and VI e and the irrigability classes noticed are 2t, 3d, 3t, 4t and 6t. IVe is the predominant land capability subclass and 4t, the land irrigability subclass. Other interpretative studies like hydrologic grouping, crop suitability, soil fertility, soil conservation priority and production potential of the soils were conducted. The main problems encountered in the panchayat are dealt with in brief. Interpretative maps are appended. This report is expected to serve as a reference guide for planning developmental schemes in the agricultural scenario of the panchayat.