ABSTRACT

This report deals with the soil and land resources of Nemom panchayat of Thiruvananthapuram taluk of Thiruvananthapuram 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.

Nemom panchayat with an area of 1218 ha is located in the south eastern side of Thiruvananthapuram taluk. The garden land covers an area of 1086.43 ha and is cultivated to coconut, tapioca, banana, pepper, vegetables, fruit trees, rubber, etc. The total area under wetland is 102.50 ha and is cultivated to paddy during the first and second crop season. Pulses and vegetables are raised during the third crop season. An area of 29.07 ha of paddy land has been reclaimed and cultivated to coconut, arecanut, tapioca, vegetables, banana, etc.

Six soil series have been identified in the panchayat. They are Vizhinjam, Karamana, Poovar, Vellayani, Marukil and Kunnathukal. Vizhinjam series with an area of 737.11 ha (60.52%) occupies the major area in the garden land followed by Karamana series with an area of 288.16 ha (23.66%). Poovar series occupies an area of 49.02 ha (4.02%) and Vellayani series cover an area of 12.14 ha (1%). Marukil series from the major wetland soil with an area of 74.13 ha (6.09%) followed by Kunnathukal series with an area of 28.37 ha (2.33%). Miscellaneous lands cover an area of 29.07 ha (2.38%).

During the monsoon period the panchayat is affected by flood due to water from the Karamanan river. The flood affected areas included Karamana, Neeramankara, Azhankal, Karumam, Edagramam and Madhupalam.

Three land capability classes such as II, III and IV and three land irrigability classes viz. 2, 3 and 4 are encountered. IIe is the predominant land capability subclass (734.38 ha) and 3t, the predominant land irrigability subclass (722.24 ha). Other interpretative studies like hydrologic grouping, Crop suitability, and soil fertility of the soils are conducted. The main problems encountered in the panchayat are dealt with briefly. Interpretative maps are appended.