ABSTRACT

This report deals with the soil and land resources of Cherthala South panchayat of Cherthala taluk of Alappuzha 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.

Cherthala South panchayat having an extent of 1834 ha is located in Cherthala taluk of Alappuzha district. The panchayat has 1495.5 ha of garden land area. Of 267 ha of wet land only 80 ha is under paddy cultivation and the remaining area is left fallow. Garden land is mainly cultivated to coconut with tapioca, banana, arecanut and pepper as intercrops.

During the course of Detailed Soil Survey of the panchayat, 4 soil series were identified. Only one series viz. Cherukole series occur in the wetland. Of the garden land series namely Kavur, Kattur and Panmana, the major portion is covered by Kavur series followed by Kattur.

Land capability classes noticed in the panchayat are Ills, Illsw and IVs and the irrigability classes noticed are 3s, 3sd and 4s. IVs is the predominant land capability subclass and 4s 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.