ABSTRACT

The soil and land resources report of Ezhupunna panchayat gives a detailed account of the general characteristics of the area, soils of the area, major problems and management requirements, interpretations and recommendations for various uses.

The panchayat spreads over an area of 1408 ha and is located in the northwestern part of Cherthala taluk in Alappuzha district. The garden land covers an area of 591 ha and is cultivated with coconut, tapioca, banana etc. Wetland covers an area of 611 ha, of which paddy is cultivated only in 8 ha and pisciculture is practiced in the rest of the area. Marshy area account for about 13 ha in the panchayat. The soil series identified in the panchayat are Kavur, Kattur, Thuravur and Cherukole. Kattur occupies the major portion of the garden land (352ha) followed by Thuravur series (327 ha).

Based on the characteristics of the soils, two land capability classes such as III and IV and two land irrigability classes viz. 3 and 4 were recognised. IIIws is the predominant land capability subclass and 3ds the land irrigability subclass. Other interpretative studies like hydrologic grouping, crop suitability, soil fertility and production potential of the soils were made. The main problems encountered in the panchayat are dealt with briefly. Interpretative maps are appended.