ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Kainakary panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during November 2005 – February 2006 to assess the resources, to identify the problem and to suggest suitable development plans for the area. The report gives a detailed account of the general characteristics and soils of the area, major problems and management requirements, interpretations and recommendations for various uses.

Kainakary panchayat comprising an area of 3664 ha is located in Kuttanad taluk of Alappuzha district. The wet land covers an area of 2831.0 ha. A single crop of paddy (Puncha) is taken. The garden land, which is actually the converted wetland, covers an area of 328.5 ha and coconut based mixed cropping system is prevalent. During the survey two soil series, Champakulam (1832.0 ha) and Vechoor (999.0 ha) have been identified in the wetland. The soils identified in the converted wetland is grouped as miscellaneous soils and extend over an area of 328.5 ha. Physiographically the panchayat comes under lowlands. Flooding, water stagnation and the intrusion of salt water through water bodies connected to sea are the major problems which affect the production of crops.

The land capability class identified is IV and 3 is the land irrigability class. IVw is the predominant land capability subclass and 3d, 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 that are encountered in the panchayat and its suggested management are dealt with briefly. Interpretative maps are also appended.