ABSTRACT

This report deals with the soil and land resources of Karuvatta panchayat of Karthikapally 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.

The panchayat spreads over an area of 1768 ha and is located in the northern part of Karthikapally taluk. The garden land covers an area of 353 ha and is cultivated with coconut, tapioca, banana etc. Wetland covers an area of 1211 ha. Marshy area account for about 12% of the total area of the panchayat. The soil series identified in the panchayat are Karuvatta, Champakulam, Pallipad ‘A’, Pallipad ‘B’, Ambalapuzha, Haripad, Mannar and Ramankary. Pallipad ‘A’ occupies the major portion of the garden land (79ha) followed by Haripad series (74 ha). Of the wetland series, Karuvatta series occupies the major portion of the area (417 ha) followed by Champakulam series (401ha).

Based on the characteristics of the soils, three land capability classes such as II, III and IV and three land irrigability classes viz. 2, 3 and 4 were recognised. IVw is the predominant land capability subclass and 4d 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.