ABSTRACT

The soil and land resources report of Mararikulam North panchayat of Cherthala taluk of Alappuzha district 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.

Mararikulam North panchayat comprising an area of 1714 ha is located in Cherthala taluk of Alappuzha district. Out of the total area, 1426 ha is occupied by garden land and 288 ha is occupied by wetland. Kootumundakan type of cultivation is practiced in major portion of the wetland. Vegetables are raised to a minor extent. Coconut is the major crop of the garden lands. Other crops raised in garden lands include banana, vegetables and fruit crops.

During the course of Detailed Soil Survey of the panchayat, four soil series have been identified. They are, Punnapra, Kattur and Kavur in the garden lands and Cherukole series in the wetlands. Three land capability subclasses and three land irrigability sub classes were identified in the panchayat. Soils of the panchayat are generally low in all the major plant nutrients. 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 also appended. This report is expected to serve as a reference guide for planning developmental schemes in the agricultural scenario of the panchayat. The detailed soil survey of Mararikulam North panchayath was carried out during February-May, 1998.