ABSTRACT

This report includes an assessment of the soil and land resources of Thazhakkara panchayat and presents their characteristics along with an evaluation of their limitations and managerial requirements for sustained use. Detailed soil survey of Thazhakkara panchayat was conducted during November - December, 1998. Thazhakkara panchayat comprising an area of 2526 ha is located in the north eastern part of Mavelikara municipality of Alappuzha district. Garden land constitutes an area of 1664 ha, 842 ha comes under wet land and miscellaneous land occupies an area of 20 ha.

Based on the soil survey conducted three soil series have been identified viz., Palamel and Mannar series (garden land soils) and Vetticode series (wet land). Palamel series occupies the major area with 1518 ha, followed by Vetticode series with an area of 842 ha. 166 ha is occupied by Mannar series.

In garden land, coconut is the major crop with an area of 920 ha. The garden land soils are prone to excessive drought and moisture stress during summer, which could be effectively checked by mulching. Soils have low to medium nutrient status and the production potential is low to medium. Root (wilt) attributes to the low production of coconut in this area. Paddy is the major crop grown in wet land. Virippu, Mundakan and Puncha crops. Puncha is the major crop taken.

Interpretative maps like soil, land capability and land irrigability are included in this report. The report provides information on specific problems and their management for an integrated development of the panchayat.