ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Kandallur panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during April 2002 to assess the resources, to identify the problem and to suggest suitable development plans of 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.

Kandallur panchayat comprising an area of 974 ha is located in Karthikapally taluk of Alappuzha district. Physiographically, the panchayat comes under lowland region. The major crops in the panchayat are paddy and coconut. During the course of detailed soil survey three soil series were identified viz. Punnamada, Mannar and Cherukole series. Mannar series occupies the major part of the panchayat (420 ha). In the garden land coconut based mixed crop is widely adopted. The wet land covers an area of 146 ha and is mainly cultivated to virippu and mundakan crops of paddy in 110 ha. Sesamum is cultivated in the third crop season. Flooding and salt water intrusion are the major limitations of this area.

The soils of this panchayat are classified into four land capability classes such as, IIIs, IIIw, IVw and IVws and four land irrigability classes such as 3s, 3ds, 4d and 4ds. The predominant land capability subclass is III s and 3s, 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.