ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Mannancherry panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during June - July 2004 to assess the resources, to identify the problem and to suggest suitable development plans for the area. This 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.

The panchayat spreads over an area of 3452 ha and is located in the north eastern part of Ambalapuzha taluk in Alappuzha district. Physiographically, the panchayat comes under lowland region. The major crops in the panchayat are coconut and paddy. During the course of detailed soil survey five soil series were identified viz. Alappuzha, Punnamada, Thekkekara, Cherukole and Champakulam. Alappuzha series occupies the major share of the panchayat (1439.0 ha). Paddy is cultivated in an area of 110 ha.

The soils of this panchayat are classified into three land capability classes such as III, IV and V and land irrigability classes such as 2, 3 and 5. The predominant land capability subclass is IVs 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.