ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Alangad panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during 2005 to assess the resources of the area, to identify the problems and to suggest suitable development programmes for sustained and integrated development of the area.

Alangad panchayat is located in Paravur taluk of Ernakulam district and extends over 1905 ha. The garden land covers an area of 829.5 ha. Coconut dominant mixed cropping with banana, tapioca, arecanut, pepper etc is prevalent in the garden land. The total area under wetland is 735.5 ha. Paddy is the main crop cultivated. An area of 290.0 ha of the wetlands are converted for the cultivation of garden land crops like banana, vegetables etc and for construction purposes. The soil series identified in the garden land are Kilikulam, Irapuram, Kurichilakode, Parakkadavu and Udayamperoor. The major portion of the garden land is under Kurichilakode series (270.0 ha) followed by Parakkadavu series (264.0 ha). Ikkaranad (424.0 ha) and Ayiroor (311.5 ha) are the soils identified in the wetlands.

Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability subclasses IIw, IIIw, IIIe, IIIIs, IVs and IVes and land irrigability subclasses 2d, 2t, 2s, 3t, 3s, 3st and 4st were recognized in the panchayat. IIIe and 2d are the predominant land capability class and land irrigability class respectively. Other interpretative studies like hydrologic grouping, crop suitability, fertility and production potential of the soils are also included in the report. The problems encountered in the panchayat are dealt with briefly. Interpretative maps are appended.