ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Cheranallur panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during 2007 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.

Cheranallur panchayat is located in Kanayannur taluk of Ernakulam district and extends over 1059 ha. The panchayat is part of the flat to very gently sloping lowland tract and is bounded by water on almost all four sides. The garden land covers an area of 449.5 ha and is mainly cultivated with coconut, banana, tapioca, arecanut, pepper, etc. The total area under wetland is 333.5 ha. A single crop of paddy is raised followed by prawn culture. Pokkali rice cultivation is popular. An area of 88.0 ha of the wetlands is converted for the cultivation of coconut, arecanut, tapioca, banana etc. The soil series identified in the garden land are Vytilla (261.0 ha) and Udayamperoor (188.5.0 ha). Vypeen (219.5 ha) and Thrikkakara (114.0 ha) are the soils identified in the wetlands.

Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability subclasses IIIIs, IVs and IVWs and land irrigability subclasses 2s, 3s and 4ds were recognized in the panchayat. IVs and 3s 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.