ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Chottanikkara panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during 2006 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.

Chottanikkara panchayat is located in Kanayannur taluk of Ernakulam district and extends over 1268 ha. The garden land covers an area of 805.5 ha. Rubber occupies maximum area under cultivation. The total area under wetland is 363.5 ha. Paddy is cultivated in an area of 60 ha. An area of 48 ha has been converted for growing garden land crops such as banana, tapioca, cococnut etc. The soil series identified in the garden land are Perumbavoor, Irapuram, and Punnamattom. The major portion of the garden land is under Perumbavoor series (486.5 ha) followed by Irapuram series (285 ha). Ayiroor (97ha), Mulamthuruthy(163.5 ha), Thrikkakara(86.5 ha) and Ikkaranad (167ha) are the soils identified in the wetlands.

Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability subclasses IIw, IIle, IIles, IVes and IVws and land irrigability subclasses 2d, 3t, 3st, 3ds and 4st were recognized in the panchayat. IIles and 4st are the predominant land capability class and land irrigability classes 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.