ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Kadungallur 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.

Kadungallur panchayat is located in Paravur taluk of Ernakulam district and extends over 1806 ha. The panchayat is part of the lowland tract. The garden land covers an area of 695.0 ha and is mainly cultivated with coconut. The total wetland area is 874.0 ha. Paddy is cultivated only in 5 ha. Most of the paddy fields are left fallow or used for raising garden land crops. Nearly 36% (311 ha) of the original wetlands has been converted for various uses and is put under Miscellaneous soils. The soil series identified in the garden land are Kilikulam, Kalady and Punnamattom. The major portion of the garden land is under Kilikulam series (275.0 ha) followed by Punnamattom series 211.0 ha). Ikkaranad (351.0 ha, Thrikkakara (109.0 ha)) and Ayiroor (103.0 ha) are the soils identified in the wetlands.

Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability subclasses IIw, IIe, IIIe, IIIws and IVe and land irrigability subclasses 2d, 2t, 3t, 3ds and 4t were recognized in the panchayat. IIIe and 3t 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.