ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Karumallur panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during 2009 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.

Karumallur panchayat is located in Parur taluk of Ernakulam district and extends over 2105 ha. The garden lands cover an area of 1017 ha and are mainly cultivated with coconut, arecanut, banana, tapioca, etc. The total area under wetland is 724 ha. Paddy is cultivated only in an area of 150 ha. The wetlands are used for raising garden land crops or fallowed. An area of 54 ha of the wetlands is converted for the cultivation of tapioca, banana etc or used for non-agricultural purposes. The soil series identified in the garden land are Perumbavoor, Kilikulam, Punnamattom and Parakkadavu. The major portion of the garden land is under Parakkadavu series (510ha) followed by Kilikulam series (253ha). Ikkaranadu (213ha), Ayiroor (453 ha) and Thrikkakara (58ha) are the soils identified in the wetlands.

Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability subclasses IIw, IIws, IIe, IIle, IIles, IVe and IVes and land irrigability subclasses 2d, 2t, 3sd, 3t, 3st, 4t and 4st were recognized in the panchayat. IIle and 2t 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.