ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Keezhumadu panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during 2008 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.

Keezhumadu panchayat is located in Aluva taluk of Ernakulam district and extends over 1779 ha. The garden land covers an area of 1084 ha. Coconut dominant mixed cropping with banana, tapioca, arecanut, pepper etc is prevalent in the garden land. The total area under wetland is 512 ha. Paddy is cultivated in an area of 80 ha, 140ha, 120ha during 1st crop, 2nd crop and 3rd crop respectively. The soil series identified in the garden land are Odakkali, Perumbavoor, Irapuram, and Punnamattom. The major portion of the garden land is under Perumbavoor series (498 ha) followed by Irapuram series (473ha). Ayiroor (345ha) and Ikkaranad (167ha) are the soils identified in the wetlands.

Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability subclasses IIw, IIe, IIIes, IVe, IVes and VIe, and land irrigability subclasses 2d, 2t, 2st, 3st, 4t, 4st and 6tt were recognized in the panchayat. IIIes 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.