SOIL AND LAND RESOURCE INVENTORY OF Koothattukulam Panchayat

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

Koothattukulam panchayat is located in Muvattupuzha taluk of Ernakulam district and extends over 2318 ha. The garden land covers an area of 1891 ha. Coconut dominant mixed cropping with banana, tapioca, arecanut, pepper etc is prevalent in the garden land. The total area under wetland is 369 ha. Paddy is the main crop cultivated. An area of 58.0 ha of the wetlands are converted for the cultivation of garden land crops like banana, vegetables etc and for construction purposes. The soil series identified in the garden land are Odakkali, Perumbavoor and Irapuram. The major portion of the garden land is under Odakkali series (1039 ha) followed by Perumbavoor series (603.0 ha) and Irapuram (249.0 ha). Mulanthuruthy (257 ha) and Kothamangalam (112 ha) are the soils identified in the wetlands.

Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability subclasses IIw, IIle, IIles, IVe, IVes, Vle and Vles and land irrigability subclasses 2d, 2t, 2st, 3t, 3st, 4t, 4st, 6t and 6st were recognized in the panchayat. IIles and 3st 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.