ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Mudakuzha panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during 2001 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.

Mudakuzha panchayat is located in Kunnathunadu taluk of Ernakulam district and extends over 2197 ha. The garden lands cover an area of 1259 ha and are mainly cultivated with rubber, coconut, cocoa, banana, ginger, pineapple, etc. The total area under wetland is 938 ha and is mainly cultivated with paddy. The soil series identified in the garden land are Odakkali, Panamkuzhy, Kilikulam, Irapuram, and Kurichilakode. The major portion of the garden land is under Odakkali series (710.0 ha) followed by Kilikulam series (213.25 ha). Kothamangalam (505.75 ha) and Charaladu (432.25 ha) series are the soils identified in the wetlands.

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