ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Thiruvamkulam panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during June-July 2005 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.

Thiruvamkulam panchayat is located in Kanayannur taluk of Ernakulam district and extends over 1049 ha. The garden lands cover an area of 412.75 ha and are mainly cultivated with coconut, arecanut, banana, vegetables, etc. The total area under wetland is 389.5 ha. Paddy is cultivated only in an area of 2 ha. The wetlands are used for raising garden land crops or fallowed. An area of 246.75 ha of the wetlands are converted for the cultivation of crops like arecanut, tapioca, banana etc or used for non-agricultural purposes. The major soil series identified in the garden land are Kilikulam, Punnamattom, and Vytilla. The major portion of the garden land is under Kilikulam series (209.5 ha) followed by Vytilla series (122.0 ha). Thrikkakara (307.5 ha) and Ayiroor (82.0 ha) are the soils identified in the wetlands.

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