ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Marady panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during 1990 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.

Marady panchayat is located in Muvattupuzha taluk of Ernakulam district and extends over 2137 ha. The garden lands cover an area of 1649.0 ha and are mainly cultivated with rubber, coconut, banana, arecanut, pineapple, etc. The total area under wetland is 386 ha. Paddy is cultivated in 345 ha. Pineapple and vegetables are also raised. 33 ha of wetlands are converted for industrial purposes. Four soil series were identified in the garden land, of which the major share is under Odakkali series (849.0 ha) followed by Perumbavoor series (492.0 ha). Ikkaranad (247 ha) and Kothamangalam (139 ha) are the soils identified in the wetlands. The soils in the converted wetlands were grouped as Miscellaneous soil.

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