ABSTRACT

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

Nayarambalam is a coastal panchayat located in Kochi taluk of Ernakulam district and extends over 1219 ha. The panchayat is part of the lowland tract. The garden land covers an area of 593.0 ha and is under coconut, vegetables, banana, pulses, etc. The wetland covers an area of 346.5 ha and is composed of Pokkali lands. Water bodies extend over 279.5 ha. Pisciculture is the major occupation of the people of the panchayat. A single crop of paddy (Virippu) followed by prawn culture is the traditional practice followed in the wetlands. The soil series identified in the garden land are Vytilla (397.0 ha) and Udayamperoor series (196.0 ha). Vypeen (346.5 ha) is the only soil identified in the wetland.

Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability subclasses IIIs, IVs and IVVs and land irrigability subclasses 2s, 3s and 4ds were recognized in the panchayat. IVVs and 4ds 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.