ABSTRACT

The soil survey of the Pindimana panchayat was conducted to collect information on soil characteristics, natural resources, cropping pattern, their problems and management requirements, interpretation and recommendation for various uses. Pindimana panchayat extents over an area of 2576ha and is located in the northern portion of the Kothamangalam Taluk of Ernakulam district. The detailed soil survey of the panchayat was started during April 1994.

In the dry lands, Thodupuzha, Punnamattom and Odakkali series are found. Ikkaranad series, Kothamangalam series and Kuttamangalam series represents the wet land soils of the panchayat. Rubber is the predominant crop in the panchayat followed by the coconut. Generally, two crops of paddy are raised. Banana, pepper, ginger, turmeric etc are raised as intercrops.

Soil erosion is a problem in the northern region of the panchayat where steep slopes are found. There is a scope for increasing the areas under cash crops with better utilization of water available from Periyar Valley Irrigation Project canal. With proper management practices and use of high yielding varieties, the productivity of the crops can be increased.