ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Ramamangalam panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during 2004 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.

Ramamangalam panchayat is located in Moovattupuzha taluk of Ernakulam district and extends over 2340 ha. The panchayat is part of the midland tract. The garden land covers an area of 1481.75 ha and is cultivated with rubber, coconut, pineapple, banana, arecanut, etc. The total wetland area is 744.25 ha. Paddy is the main crop cultivated. The soil series identified in the garden land are Odakkali, Perumbavoor, Kilikulam, Irapuram and Punnamattom. The major portion of the garden land is under Odakkali series (599.75 ha) followed by Irapuram series (269.0 ha). Ikkaranad (566.5 ha) and Kothamangalam (177.75 ha) are the soils identified in the wetlands.

Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability subclasses IIw, Ile, IIle, Ilees, IVe and IVes and land irrigability subclasses 2d, 2t, 3t, 3st, 4t and 4st 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.