ABSTRACT

This report deals with the soil and land resources of Thirumarady panchayat of Ernakulam district. The report gives a detailed account of the general characteristics of the panchayat viz., area, soils, major problems and management requirements, interpretations and recommendations for various uses.

Thirumarady Panchayat comprises an area of 2924 Ha located in Pampakuda block in Muvattupuzha taluk of Ernakulam district. The detailed soil survey was done during 1997, and the updating in 1999. Six soil series have been identified. The garden land covering an area of 2804 ha is under rubber, coconut, arecanut and mixed cropping of coconut with tapioca, banana, pepper, ginger, cocoa, fruit trees, spices, and vegetables. The wetland covers an area of 120 ha is cultivated with paddy, vegetables etc.

During the soil survey, six soil series have been identified in the panchayat. These includes Perumbavoor, Odakkali, Kothamangalam, Ikkaranadu, Vazhakulam and Varapetty. Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability classes such as II, III, IV & VI and land irrigability classes viz. 2, 3, 4 & 6 were recognised. IVe is the predominant land capability subclass and 6t the land irrigability subclass. Other interpretative studies like hydrologic grouping, crop suitability, soil fertility and production potential of the soils were made. The main problems encountered in the panchayat are dealt with briefly. Interpretative maps are also appended.