ABSTRACT

The soil and land resources report of Cheruthazham panchayat of Kannur taluk gives a detailed account of the general characteristics of its area, soils, major problems and management requirements, interpretations and recommendations for various uses.

The panchayat spreads over an area of 3219.15 ha and is located in Kannur taluk of Kannur district. The garden land covers an area of 2043 ha and is cultivated with arecanut, coconut, tapioca, banana, vegetables etc. Wetland covers an area of 1040 ha and 65.15 ha comprises of waterlogged area. The soil series identified in the panchayat are Arathil, Pilathara, Edanad, Muttathy, Cheruthazham, Narikode, Ezhome, Chelapram, Vayalapra, Dharmadam and pudukkai.

The detailed soil survey report of Cheruthazham panchayat was started in August 1978 and concluded in September 1978. Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability classes such as IIw, Ile, IIIe, IVs, IVw, Vle and VIIe and land irrigability classes viz. 2d, 2sd, 2s, 3st, 4s, 4sd, 5st and 6st were recognised. Ile is the predominant land capability subclass and 6st 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 appended. As the planning is decentralized and panchayat level planning is proposed in Panchayat Raj, the soil survey report can be used to integrated development programme of the panchayat based on natural resources- soil water and vegetation.