ABSTRACT

This report deals with the soil and land resources of Badiadka panchayat of Kasargod taluk of Kasargod 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.

The panchayat is situated in the northern side of Kasargod district about 10km east of Arabian sea and covers an area of 6782.24ha. The garden land occupies an area of 4754.13ha. Arecanut, cashew, coconut and paddy are the major crops. The wetland covers an area of 775.12ha. Low lands and valleys in between hillocks are cultivated with paddy, arecanut, banana, etc. Midlands are cultivated with coconut, pepper etc and hilly areas where water scarcity is experienced are cultivated with cashew. The major soil identified in the garden land is Arathil (2431.48ha) followed by Kolathur (916.31ha). Muttathy (172.62ha) Nekraje (42.21ha) and Thekkila (20.29ha) are the soils seen in the wetland.

Based on the characteristics of the soils five land capability classes such as II, III and IV, VI, and VII and five land irrigability classes viz. 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 were recognised. IVe is the predominant land capability subclass and 5t, the land irrigability subclass. Other interpretative studies like hydrologic grouping, crop suitability and fertility of the soils were made. The main problems encountered in the panchayat are dealt with briefly. Interpretative maps are appended.