ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Edamulackal panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during 1990 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.

Edamulackal panchayat is located in Pathanapuram taluk of Kollam district and extends over 3870.18 ha. The panchayat is part of the midland and mid upland tract. The garden land covers an area of 3305.18 ha and is cultivated with rubber, coconut, tapioca, pepper, etc. The total wetland area is 565.0 ha. A single crop of paddy is raised in 450 ha.

The soil series identified in the garden land are Karavaloor, Vilakkudi, Edamulackal, Ummannoor and Kallada. The major portion of the garden land is under Karavaloor series (1921.82 ha) followed by Edamulackal series (701.12 ha). Mylom (67.84 ha), Pooyappally (186.88 ha) and Kunnakkara (310.28 ha) are the soils identified in the wetlands.

Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability subclasses IIw, Ille, IVe, IVes, Vle, Vles, VIIe and VIIes and land irrigability subclasses 2d, 2t, 3t, 4t, 4st, 6t and 6st were recognized in the panchayat. Illes and 3st 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.