ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Kulasekharapuram panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during May-June 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.

Kulasekharapuram panchayat is located in Karunagappally taluk of Kollam district and extends over 1675 ha. The garden lands cover an area of 1088.7 ha and are mainly cultivated with coconut, arecanut, tapioca, banana etc. The total area under wetland is 103.9 ha. Paddy is cultivated only in 15 ha. The remaining area is cultivated with coconut on mounds or fallowed. An area of 482.4 ha of wetlands is converted for the cultivation of coconut and for construction purposes. The soil series identified in the garden land is Ochira and Sooranad is the soil identified in the wetlands. The soils in the converted wetlands were grouped as Miscellaneous soil.

Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability subclasses IIw, IIIw, IIIws and IVws and land irrigability subclasses 2d and 3ds were recognized in the panchayat. IVws and 3ds 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.