Abstract

Detailed soil Survey of Chelannur panchayat in Kozhikode Taluk of Kozhikode District was undertaken to have a soil and land resource inventory of the area. The objective of the survey was to prepare integrated area specific development plans based on the interpretative studies of the collected data.

The panchayat situated in the north-eastern boundary of Kozhikode Taluk extends over an area of 2391.04 ha. Garden lands occupy an area of 1608.32 ha and wetlands occupy an area of 642.56 ha. Rest 104.16 ha is under non-agricultural uses.

Of the 642.56 ha under wet lands, only 96 ha is under paddy cultivation. Filling up the wet lands with transported soil for raising garden land crops and construction purposes is a common trend in this panchayat.

Coconut based mixed cropping is practiced in the major part of the garden lands. Banana, Arecanut, Tapioca, Vegetables Cashew and yams are the other crops cultivated.

Nine soil series, viz., Chelapram, Kalarikkunnu, Kakkodi, Kunnamangalam, Memmala, Sivapuram, Chaliar, Nanminda and Thiruvambadi series have been identified in the panchayat. Of these, Kakkodi and Chelapram series are encountered in the wet lands and the remaining are garden land soils. Land capability classes II, III, IV, and VI and land irrigability classes 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are identified.

Crop suitability recommendations have been made for each mapping unit. In general, the soils of the panchayat are low in nitrogen, phosphorus and medium in potassium status. In areas with moderate slope, earthen bunds fortified with vegetative cover and in steeper slopes, rubble pitched contour bunds are required to conserve soil and water. Suitable crop management suggestions have also been made.