ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Krishnapuram panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during October 2001 to assess the resources, to identify the problem and to suggest suitable development plans of the area. The report gives a detailed account of the general characteristics and soils of the area, major problems and management requirements, interpretations and recommendations for various uses.

Krishnapuram panchayat comprising an area of 1064 ha is located in Karthikapally taluk of Alappuzha district. Physiographically, the panchayat comes under lowland region. The major crops in the panchayat are paddy and coconut. During the course of detailed soil survey two soil series were identified viz. Mannar and Cherukole series. Mannar series occupies the major share of the panchayat area (460 ha). In the garden land coconut with banana as the major inter crop is the cropping pattern. The wet land covers an area of 262 ha and is mainly cultivated to virippu and mundakan crops of paddy. Sesamum is cultivated in the third crop season.

The soils of this panchayat are classified into three land capability classes such as IIs, IIIIs and IIIw and three land irrigability classes such as 2d, 2s, 3d and 3s. The predominant land capability subclass is III s and 3s, 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 that are encountered in the panchayat and its suggested management are dealt with briefly. Interpretative maps are also appended.