ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Pulpetta panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Soil Survey & Soil Conservation during 2008-2009 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.

Pulpetta panchayat is located in Ernad taluk of Malappuram district and extends over 3012 ha. The panchayat is part of the midland and midupland tract. The garden land covers an area of 2262.5 ha and is cultivated with coconut, arecanut, rubber, banana, cashew, vegetables, etc. The wetland extends over 423.75 ha. Paddy is the main crop cultivated. An area of 203.75 ha of the original wetlands were converted for cultivating arecanut, coconut, vegetables, betelvine, banana, tapioca, etc or for construction purpose. The soil series identified in the garden land are Kuttil, Mannamkulam, Pazhamallur, Vattallur, Naduvattom, Angadipuram and Ponmundam. The major portion of the garden land is under Mannamkulam series (724.02 ha) followed by Naduvattom series 674.10 ha). Pangu (97.65 ha), Ramapuram (126.29 ha) and Valampur (199.81 ha) are the soils identified in the wetlands. The soils in the converted wetlands were grouped as Miscellaneous soils.

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