ABSTRACT

This report contains an assessment of the soil and land resources of Elanthur panchayat of Kozhencherry taluk of Pathanamthitta district and presents their characteristics along with an evaluation of their limitations and management requirement for sustained use. Elanthur panchayat consists of an area of 1509 ha., of which 1199.8 ha is garden land and the remaining is wet land. An area of 90.80 ha of wet land was reclaimed for the cultivation of garden land crops like coconut, tapioca, banana etc. The rest of the area is under paddy cultivation. Garden land is cultivated to coconut, rubber, tapioca, banana etc.

During the course of detailed soil survey, four main soil series area identified viz., Airavon, Chethakkal, Kumaranperoor and Mallassery. The reclaimed soils were grouped under Miscellaneous land type. Chethakkal and Kumaranperoor are garden land soils whereas Airavon and Mallassery are wet land soils. Major area of the garden land was covered by Chethakkal series (964.30 ha) followed by Kumaranperoor series (235.50ha). Among the wet land soils, Mallassery series occupies an area of 108.40 ha and Airavon series occurs in 81.20ha.

Major problems of the soils of the garden land as shallow depth, gravelliness rockiness, high slope and proneness to erosion. Regarding the wet lands, flooding and overflow are the major constraints. The information provided in this report includes location specific problems and their management for integrated development of the panchayat.