ABSTRACT

The soil and land resources report of Kulanada panchayat gives a detailed account of the general characteristics of the panchayat viz., area, soils of the area, major problems and management requirements, interpretations and recommendations for various uses.

Kulanada panchayat comprising an area of 2150 ha is located in Kozhencherry taluk of Pathanamthitta district. The panchayat has a garden land area of 1789.6 ha and 251 ha of wet land. Of the total wet land area, 64.4 ha has been converted for the cultivation of upland crops like banana, tapioca and vegetables. Major crops of the garden land is rubber. Crops like coconut, cashew, arecanut, banana, pepper etc. are also grown mainly in homesteads in mixed cropping pattern. Paddy is taken in three seasons. Majority of the area is cultivated as puncha crop.

Land capability classes noticed in the panchayat are III w, III e, IV e, VI e and VI es. Land irrigability classes noticed in the panchayat are 2t, 3t, 3d, 4t, 6t and 6ts. Crop suitability classification reveals the importance of adopting mixed or intercropping in lower physiographic regions and less tillage requiring crops in the elevated areas. Proper crop selection and adequate utilization of natural resources without degrading the environment can lead the panchayat to self sufficiency. The survey was conducted during the period November 1999 to February 2000.