ABSTRACT

This report deals with the soil and land resources of Mallapuzhassery panchayat of Kozhencherry taluk of Pathanamthitta district. The report gives a detailed account of the general characteristics of the panchayat viz., area, soils, major problems and management requirements, interpretations and recommendations for various uses.

Mallapuzhassery panchayat comprising an area of 1245 ha is located in Kozhencherry taluk of Pathanamthitta district and is included in Elamthoor block panchayat. The panchayat has a wet land area of 222.5 ha where paddy is being cultivated. An area of 36 ha of wet land have been converted for the cultivation of upland corps like coconut, tapioca, banana and vegetables. Rubber is the major crop of uplands followed by coconut. Coconut, banana, tapioca, Arecanut, fruit trees and other tuber crops are grown as mixed crops or intercrops in the homestead.

Based on the detailed soil survey five soil series were identified in the panchayat. They are Chethakkal, Puthenpeedika, Ayroor, Mallassery and Airavon. Wet lands belong mainly to Mallassery series and a minor portion to Airavon soil series. Four land capability classes, namely, IIIw, IIIe, IVe and VIe and five land irrigability classes, namely, 2t, 3d, 3t, 4t and 6t were identified in the panchayat based on the characteristics. Other interpretative studies like crop suitability, soil fertility, hydrologic grouping and production potential of the soils were made. Soils of the panchayat are low to medium in nitrogen and medium in phosphorus and potassium contents. The information provided in the report include location specific problems and their management practices for the integrated development of the panchayat. Interpretative maps are appended.