ABSTRACT

This report deals with the soil and land resources of Pandalam panchayat of Adoor taluk of Pathanamthitta district. The report 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.

The panchayat spreads over an area of 2842 ha and is located in the north western part of Adoor taluk. The garden land covers an area of 2110 ha and is cultivated with rubber, coconut, tapioca, banana etc. Wetland covers an area of 670 ha. Out of the total wetland area, 43 ha is now converted and is under miscellaneous crops like banana, coconut, tapioca and vegetables. The soil series identified in the panchayat are Adoor, Bharanikavu, Edavanassery, Sooranad, Erath and Ayroor. Adoor series occupies the major portion of the garden land (931 ha) followed by Bharanikavu series (647 ha), Edavanasseri (415 ha) and Ayroor (117 ha). Of the wetland series, Sooranad series occupies the major portion of the area (555 ha) followed by Erath series (72 ha).

Based on the characteristics of the soils, two land capability classes such as III and IV and two land irrigability classes viz. 3 and 4 were recognised. IIIes is the predominant land capability subclass and 3ts, 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 encountered in the panchayat are dealt with briefly. Interpretative maps are appended.