ABSTRACT

This report deals with the soil and land resources of Vallikode 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.

Vallikode panchayat comprises an area of 1866 ha. Of which wet land area covers 354.5 ha and garden land occupies 1364.9ha. An area of 116.6 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, Areca nut, 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, Mallasseri and Sooranad. Wet lands belong mainly to Mallasseri series and a minor portion to Sooranad soil series. Six land capability classes, namely, IIIw, IIIe, IIIes, IVe, IVes and VIes and seven land irrigability classes, namely, 2t, 3d, 3t, 3ts, 4t, 4ts and 6ts 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.