ABSTRACT

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

Aranmula panchayat comprising an area of 2404 ha is located in Kozhencherry taluk of Pathanamthitta district. The panchayat has a garden land area of 1904.0 ha comprising soils of Putthenpeedika, Chethakkal and Ayroor series. Wet land area in the panchayat is 450 ha of width 30 ha have been converted for the cultivation of upland crops and rest of the area is cultivated to paddy usually as puncha season crop. Garden land area is mainly cultivated with rubber and crops like coconut, tapioca, banana, areca nut, cashew, etc. Land capability classes noticed in the panchayat are III w, III e, IV e, VI e Vies and VII e. Land irrigability classes noticed in the panchayat are 2d, 3d, 3t, 4t,4ts,6t and 6t. 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 can not only enhance the economy but also conserve the rich natural resource without degrading the environment. Soils are with low to medium nitrogen, low to high available phosphorus and low to medium potash contents. The information provided in the report will help in lacking location specific problem of the panchayat.