ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Nellanad panchayat was undertaken by the soil survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during October – November 2005 to assess the soil and land resources of the area, to identify the problems and to suggest suitable development programmes for sustained and integrated development of the area.

Nellanad panchayat is located in Nedumangad taluk of Thiruvananthapuram district and extends over 1846.00 ha. The panchayat lies in midland and midupland region. The major crops in the panchayat are coconut, tapioca, banana, rubber, pepper and paddy. Paddy is cultivated only in 54 ha.

During the course of soil survey, ten soil series were identified viz; Trivandrum, Nedumangad, Thonnakkal, Vamanapuram, Mudakkal, Mukkunni, Vilappil, Marukil, Vembayam and Kuttichal. Trivandrum series extends over the major area. Marukil, Vembayam and Kuttichal series are the wetland series seen in the panchayat. The soils of Nellanad panchayat are classified into nine land capability subclasses and eight land irrigability subclasses. The predominant land capability subclass is IVes and land irrigability subclass is 5st. Interpretative studies include land capability, land irrigability, crop suitability, production potential and hydrologic grouping. Various interpretative maps viz; soil and land capability and irrigability map, soil conservation priority map, proposed land use map etc. are appended.