ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Vattiyoorkavu panchayat was undertaken by the Soil Survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during 2008 to assess the resources of the area, to identify the problems and to suggest suitable development programmes for sustained and integrated development of the area.

Vattiyoorkavu panchayat is located in Thiruvananthapuram taluk of Thiruvananthapuram district and extends over 1137 ha. The panchayat lies in midland and mid-upland region. The garden land covers an area of 958.55 ha and is mainly cultivated with coconut, rubber, banana, tapioca, pepper and vegetables. The entire wetlands have been reclaimed for construction of buildings and cultivation of crops like tapioca, banana, vegetables etc. During the course of soil survey, four soil series were identified viz; Vilappil, Trivandrum, Thonnakkal and Karamana of which Trivandrum series (743.2 ha) occupies the major area followed by Vilappil series (162.5 ha). The soils seen in the converted wetlands were classified as Miscellaneous soils.

Based on the characteristics of the soils, land capability subclasses IIIe, IIIes, IVes, Vle, Vles and VIIes and land irrigability subclasses 2t, 3t, 3st, 4st, 6t and 6st were recognized in the panchayat. IIIes and 3st are the predominant land capability class and land irrigability class respectively. Other interpretative studies like hydrologic grouping, crop suitability, fertility and production potential of the soils are also included in the report. The problems encountered in the panchayat are dealt with briefly. Interpretative maps are appended.