ABSTRACT

Soil and land resource inventory of Vellanad panchayat was undertaken by the soil survey wing of the Department of Agriculture during January – March 1998 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.

Vellanad panchayat is located in Nedumangad taluk of Thiruvananthapuram district and extends over 2219.00 ha. The panchayat lies in midland and midupland region. The major crops in the panchayat are coconut, tapioca, banana, rubber, pepper and vegetables. Paddy is cultivated only in 5.2 ha.

During the course of soil survey, five soil series were identified viz; Aryancode, Vilappil, Karamana, Amaravila and Kuttichal. Aryancode series extends over the major area. Amaravila and Kuttichal series are the wetland series seen in the panchayat. The soils of Vellanad panchayat are classified into seven land capability classes and six land irrigability classes. The predominant land capability class is IVes and land irrigability class 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.