ABSTRACT

This report deals with the soil and land resources of Sreekaryam panchayat of Thiruvananthapuram district. The report gives a detailed account of the general characteristics of the panchayat viz., area, soils of the area, major problems and management requirements, interpretations and recommendations for various uses.

Sreekaryam panchayat comprising an area of 2273 ha, is located in the north eastern portion of Thiruvananthapuram district. The garden land covering an area of 1780.87 ha is under mixed cropping with coconut, tapioca, banana, spices, fruit trees, etc. Cashew and rubber is also grown in garden lands. The area under wetland is cultivated with paddy, pulses and vegetables (55 ha). An area of 389.65 ha of wetland has been converted for the cultivation of coconut, tapioca, banana and vegetables.

Eight soil series have been identified in the panchayat. These include Trivandrum, Thonnackal, Pangappara, Vilappil, Mukunni, Marukil, Amaravila and Kunnathukal series. Trivandrum series occupies the major portion of the garden land with an area of 1303.69 ha. Thonnackal series cover 219.06 ha, Pangappara 211.27ha, Vilappil 31.23 ha and Mukunni 15.62 ha in garden lands. Mukunni forms the major wetland soil with an area of 39.25 ha. The other two wetland soils, namely Amaravila and Kunnathukal occupy 10.50 ha and 5.25 ha respectively.

In the gardenlands, coconut is the most predominant crop. Other crops like tapioca, banana, pepper, cashew, rubber, etc. are also grown garden lands. Paddy is grown in wetlands. Generally during the third crop season, pulses and vegetables are grown in these lands. In the miscellaneous lands, coconut, tapioca, banana and vegetables are mainly cultivated.

Five land capability classes such as II, II, IV, VI and VII and four land irrigability classes such as 2, 3, 4 and 6 are encountered in the panchayat. The predominant land capability class is IIe and that of land irrigability class is 4st. Soil conservation priority, hydrologic grouping and crop suitability studies have also been undertaken. Relevant maps are attached.