

ชื่อเรื่อง

Growth Pattern of Vetiver and Its Uses in High Hills of Nepal

ชื่อผู้วิจัย

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Abstract

Nepal is a country of hills and mountains covering about 83% of its total area. Only 17 per cent is the plain Terai region. 240 million cubicmetre soil is being eroded every year in Nepal. About 70-80% of the slopes are being cultivated to produce more food to feed the growing population of the country. Overgrazing is another cause of accelerating soil erosion problems. The acute deforestation and cultivation related intense human activities even on the steep slopes have caused immense imbalance between the soil, climate and its vegetation which has resulted into annual soil erosion and land slides causing significant loss of life (human and animal) and property.

In search of appropriate plant material for high hills having soil binding and erosion controlling characteristics, Vetiver was introduced and has been tried for the last three years for its survival, propagation/multiplication and soil erosion controlling capacity. Vetiver, being tropical/sub-tropical plant, has the capacity to withstand cold climate, heavy frost and even the snowfall at around 6,500 ft where we have been multiplying its stock and using it on terrace edge to reduce the soil movement during the monsoon rains. The extent of its potential/capacity in soil erosion control in the high hills of Nepal is still to be studied in detail. However, Vetiver is a plant not to be limited just to the tropics and sub-tropic as its propagation, multiplication and erosion controlling capacity in the high hills is also equally important and significantly appropriate.