VETIVER SYSTEM APPLICATION AND EXTENSION FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MOUNTAINS OF SOUTHERN CHINA

Liyu Xu and Biao Huang

**China Vetiver Network** 

# 1.

# Introduction: VS development in China

#### Introduced into China by Mr. Dick Grimshaw in 1988



#### Workshop on vetiver planting technology by Agri. Ministry and Water Resource Ministry



# International Vetiver Workshop, Fuzhou 1997→Highway



#### International Conference on Vetiver Bio-Engineering Technology, Nanchang 1999





#### Vetiver can fully protect the slopes in just 100 days since planting



Vetiver stabilized slope & protected environment

#### **Vetiver for Han River bank protection**



#### **Railway constructed with silt was protected with vetiver in just 3 months since planting**



### Vetiver for city waste water treatment



# **Rubbish filling land**



#### Important role of Private Sectors and individual person:

**Since 1999 Nanchang Conference:** 

 Actively involve in ALL sections (highway, railway, river bank, landfill) so long as VS can be used to earn profit.
Enable VS sustainable, only can they! (Not universities or research institutes!)
Private companies established Provincial network, actively involving VS dissemination and extension.

2. **Vetiver-based Agroforestry** for -Erosion Control, -High Quality Commercial Tree Production, and -Food Increase

### Soil erosion in the Dabie Mountains



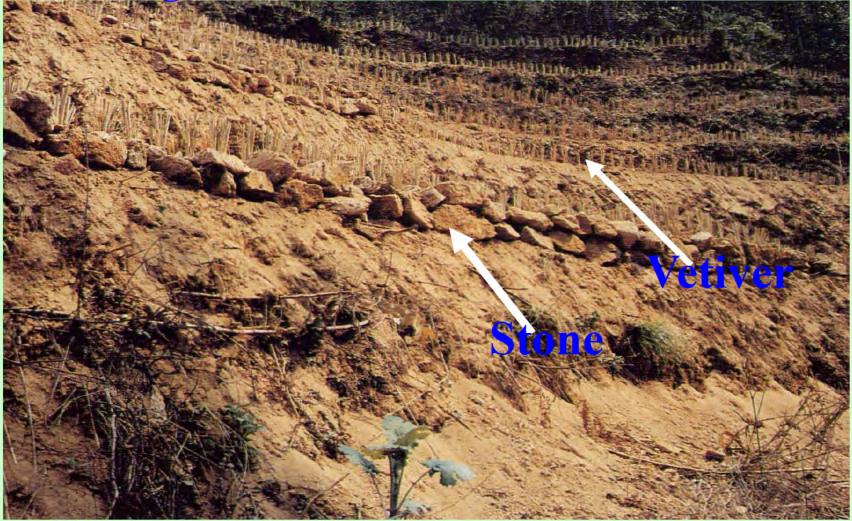
#### Problem: Large scale development caused serious erosion



### Use dead plants to fix slopes



#### Using stone to fix terrace before, now using vetiver



#### Vetiver-based agroforestry projects (2007-2014)

Times	Project title	Commercial trees	human and	Location of project
1		Name	Area (Mu)	
2007,5-	Vetiver and Agroforestry	Peach + plum	100	Batan Village, Sishui Township
2009,4	Technology for Rural Poverty Alleviation and Natural Resource	Pear	160	of Longshen County, Guangxi
		Loquat	180	
	Protection in Minority Mountains			- A second s
	of Guangxi Province of China	Peach + plum	100	Zhoujia Village, Sishui Township
		Pear	140	of Longshen County, Guangxi
		Loquat	120	
2009,5-	Vetiver Based Agroforestry for	Tea planting	100	Ganghe Village, Changpu
2011,4	Poverty Alleviation and Soil Conservation in Dabie Mountains of China	Old tea reform	50	Township of Yuexi County,
		Bamboo	300	Anhui Province
		Tea	50	Shuifan Village, Changpu Township of Yuexi County , Anhui Province
2011,5-	Rural development and	Bamboo	100	Ganghe Village, Changpu
2013,4	environmental protection in the Dabie Mountains of China			Township of Yuexi County,
				Anhui Province
		Oil tea camellia	250	Daifan Village, Shuanghe
				Township of Jinzhai County,
				Anhui Province
2013,5- 2015,4	Rural development and soil erosion control in the Dabie Mountains of China	Bamboo	100	Zishi Village, Toutuo Township
		Tea planting	100	of Yuexi County, Anhui Province
		Old tea reform	100	
		Old tea reform	300	Daifan Village,Shuanghe Township of Jinzhai County, Anhui Province

# **Economic Trees**:

Peach, plum, Pear, Loquat, Tea, Bamboo Oil tea (Camellia), Old tea reform

Intercropped by food crops: Corn, soybean



#### VS for terrace fixing for economic trees







# Vetiver-maize-tea system

# VS for rural road fixing



#### Tea trees protected by vetiver grass in just 3 months Tea quality improved



## **Chestnut tree protected by vetiver**





# Loquat intercropped with soybean





#### Tea plantation production (Changpu of Yuexi County)

Year	Production of fresh tea leaves (kg)	Production value of tea (Yuan/Mu)	Intercropped maize (kg/Mu)	Production value of maize (Yuan/Mu)	Total production value (Yuan/Mu)
2010			200	500	500
2011			200	500	500
2012			150	375	375
2013	60	2,000-3,000	0		2,500
2014	120 (estimated)	4,000-5,000	0		4,500
2015	150 (estimated)	5,000-6,000	0		5,500

#### The intercropped crops can promote tea growth





# **Small water pond for irrigation**



# **Dam construction for rice irrigation**



### Install water pipes





# **Discussion on project improvement**

# Main Project contents: Vetiver hedges

Economic trees Food crops intercropped Animal raising Irrigation and water conservation

# **3.** Systematic Technical Training and Extension (for

- project implementation and
- VS extension)



# **3.1 Content of training and extension**

- The characteristics and growth habits of vetiver, its role and efficiency on conserving water and soil, and the technology of reproduction;
- > Multiple utilization of vetiver pruning.
- > Reconstruction of eroded terrace and sloping land by VS;
- Agroforestry technology that can increase farmers income, enhance food security and prevent soil erosion;
- > The importance of plant and crop diversity;
- The planting technology of nitrogen fixation trees, bushes and crops, which can improve soil fertility and realize sustainable agriculture;
- Contour planting technology;
- Planting and management of commercial trees (bamboo and tea in particular);

## **3.2 Methods of training and extension**

**<u>Regular training</u>: Classroom lecture training combined with field practice.</u>** 

**<u>Self-study:</u>** Plenty of training materials were produced for free distribution to enable farmers to do self-study. Experts and technicians were arranged to give field guidance.

**Field visitation:** Farmers are organized to visit nice demonstration plots and promote farmers to learn from each other.

# **3.3 Materials of training and extension**

### **Training manuals**

**Newsletters** (produced for 20 years since 1996 with 80 issues totaling over 24,000 copies)

#### **Fact Sheets**

Posters

### Vetiver New Year's Greeting Cards: Scientific books:

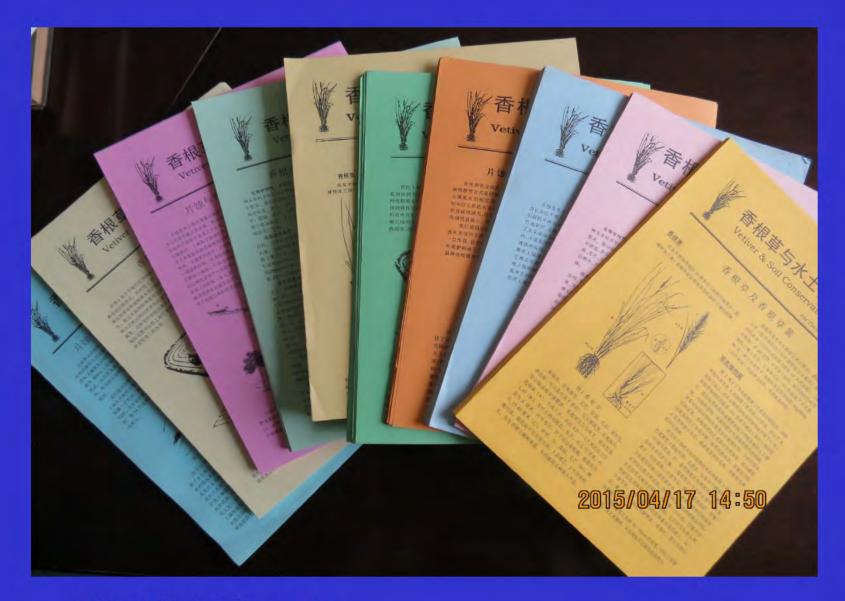
Vetiver Research and Development (1998) Vetiver System and Its Research and Applications in China (2003) The Theory and Practice of Vetiver System (2008)



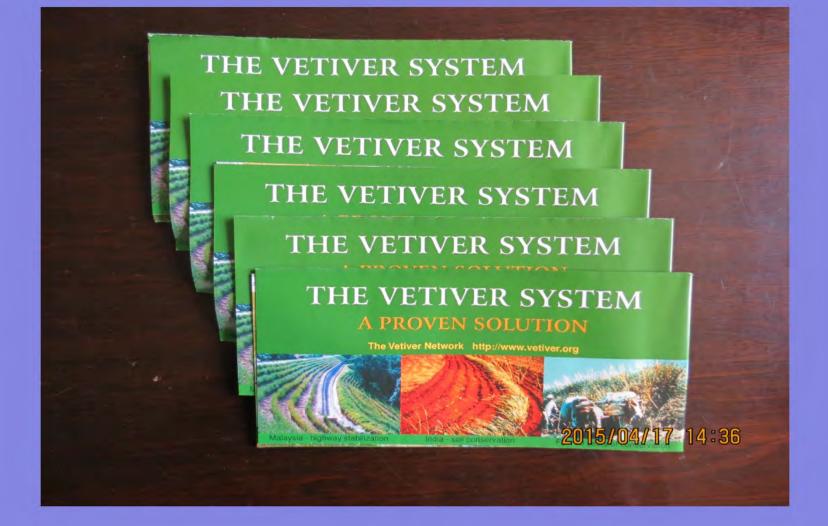
#### **Booklets**



# Newsletters for 20 years since 1996



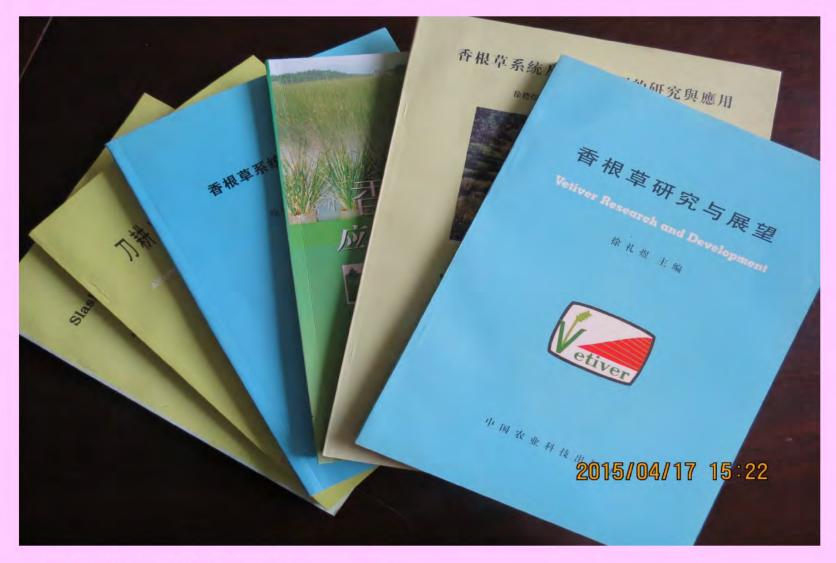
### **FACT Sheets**



#### **Posters from TVNI**



#### **New Year Cards**



## **Scientific books**











#### Hand to hand training for farmers in the Dabie Mountains



#### Lecture presentation by vetiver expert



#### Lecture on the use of vetiver for economic tree protection



# **Tea cultivation training**



# Wide distribution of vetiver printed matters to women







# 4. Vetiver handicraft trainings -to enhance women's social and economic position and -to protect rural environment

#### **Importance of vetiver handicraft**

- > Help poor farmers increase income
- > Encourage to plant more vetiver for erosion control
- Substitutes to replace plastic articles for farming and for family use to reduce plastic pollution.
- Good opportunity to exchange technical and social opinions and ideas.
- In some places women established their own organization to enhanced women's social and economic position.
- > Can bring farmers a colorful life

# Vetiver handicraft training courses (2007-2013)

Number	Time	Location	No. of participants
No. 1	22 Oct3 Nov. 2007	Lipai, GX	25
No. 2*	28-30 April 2009	Maluo, GX	36
No. 3	22-28 Oct. 2009	Batan, GX	20
No. 4	29 Oct11 Nov. 2009	Zhoujia, GX	24
No. 5	16-29 Nov. 2009	Changpu, AH	22
No. 6	11-17 Oct. 2010	Shuifan, AH	20
No. 7	10-23 Oct. 2011	Dafan, AH	25
No. 8	24 Oct6 Nov. 2011	Ganghe, AH	20
No. 9	8-13 Oct. 2013	Dafan, AH	27
No. 10	16-29 Oct. 2013	Toutuo, AH	26

# **Types of the training course**

(1) <u>Primary Training</u> Course lasted for 10-14 days; and
(2) <u>Advanced Training</u> Course lasted for 6 days foster trainers.

#### The content of the course:

- Key presentations introducing the main procedures for vetiver handicraft production,
- Poster presentations on vetiver for soil erosion control,
- Exhibition of handicraft products from former trainings,
- Powerpoint and VCD performances,
- Hand to hand practice and group discussions,
- Exhibition and evaluation of trainees' handicraft products,
- Questionnaire and conclusion,
- Final evaluation and awarding to best trainees,
- Extended training by the trainees and thorough information distribution,
  - Distribution of vetiver planting materials to trainees for the continuation of handicraft production.

# **Problems in vetiver handicraft development:**

- ◆ Needs a little longer time to training.
- Little bit of support is needed to let participants initiate and develop the local market.
- Ionger time for farmers to get profit: to grasp skill, improve product quality, design and produce new products based on the local market, and then make products in large quantities.
- In poor and remote mountains the development is rather *fragile*, influenced by many factors. For instance, transportation facility
- The main products should be correctly selected and designed and should meet local culture or history.

No.1: Introduce vetiver handicraft technology to China from Thailand Time: 22 Oct. -3 Nov. 2007 Location: Lipai, Guangxi Province of China



#### The three experts from Thailand



#### The opening ceremony



Awardees, trainers and organizers



#### Say good-bye to trainers

NO.2: Extend technology in Guangxi Province by <u>local government</u> Time: 28-30 April **2009** Location: Maluo, Guangxi Province of China



#### The opening of the course

**NO.3**: Improve skills and select trainers Time: 22-28 Oct. **2009** Location: Batan, Guangxi Province of China



Minority girls learning to make vetiver handicrafts



## The closing ceremony

NO.4: Extend vetiver handicraft technology in Guangxi Province Time: 29 Oct.-11Nov. 2009 Location: Zhoujia, Guangxi Province of China



# The opening of the training course

# Group photo of the training course



NO.5 Introduce vetiver handicraft technology to Anhui Province Time: 16-29 Nov. 2009 Location: Changpu, Anhui Province of China



#### Photo exhibition on vetiver system

# The workshop site

009.11.20



#### Group photo of the training course

**NO.6** Improve skills and foster trainers for further trainings in Anhui Province Time: 11-17 Oct. 2010 Location: Shuifan, Anhui Province of China

# 国际香根草手工编织提高班

#### The opening ceremony



#### **Discussion on the revision of model**



#### **Distribution of multiple vetiver publications**



#### Investigation on vetiver planting



#### The training course report on the TV

NO.7 The first vetiver handicraft training course in Jinzhai County of Anhui Province Time: 10-23 Oct. 2011 Location: Shuanghe, Jinzhai County, Anhui Province of China



#### Lecture on vetiver handicraft



Leaders from the Province and the County



#### The initiation of the handicraft

NO.8 Introduce vetiver handicraft technology to Ganghe & Zhuangzhong villages in Changpu of Anhui Province Time: 24 Oct.-6 Nov.2011 Location: Ganghe Village, Yuexi County, Anhui Province of China



#### The opening ceremony



Preparing products for awarding

No.9 The 2<sup>nd</sup> vetiver handicraft training course in Jinzhai County Time: 8-14 Oct. 2013 Location: : Shuanghe, Jinzhai County, Anhui Province of China

#### The opening ceremony



#### The workshop



# The champion

No.10 The 1st vetiver handicraft training course in Toutuo Township of Yuexi County Time: 15-29 Oct. 2013 Location: Zishu Village of Toutuo Township, Yuexi County, Anhui Province of China



# Lecture: the basic procedurals



#### Listening very carefully



#### May I participate?



#### The workshop



### All of the attendees



#### A hat to be finished



# Part of the products



#### Visitor and vetiver handicraft products

# 2010.01.25

#### Part of products



## Part of products



#### The little model and new vetiver product



#### Part of the products



#### **Multiple products produced**



## Part of the products



#### Product



# Model and product



# **Initial products**



# **Exhibition of the products**







# To beautify their room



# **Vetiver shopping**





## **Competition & awarding**

# **Certificates from TVNI**

















#### Market investigation





# 5. Conclusion

Vetiver was found to be a miracle grass for use in agriculture since many years ago and should serve agriculture and farmers continuously. VBAF plus multiple trainings and extensions were proved to be an excellent measure for agricultural production and rural development, which cannot only reduce soil erosion, but also help farmers, get direct income and improve their social and economic position, protect rural environment and bring farmers a colorful life.



# **Future Consideration**

## A

# Support private companies and individuals only way for VS sustainable

# A Normal CompaniesB Family CompaniesC Individuals (one person)

B

# Encourage Provincial Network





# **Encourage farmers organization on VS**

# D

Promote regional, bi-lateral cooperation on Agri., Environment, Bio-energy, Medicine and health care, Planting materials

# Thank you for your attention

