

Vetiver grass for Biomass Fuel

FACT #1 : Vetiver grass grows virtually in all soils, including saline soils. No known significant diseases. No crop failures.

FACT #2: With adequate rain or irrigation Vetiver produces up to 90 tons per hectare per year of dry grass.

FACT#3: Dry vetiver grass has a **btu-value of 7,000btu/lb**

FACT#4: Vetiver can be grown anywhere in the world at a COST of less than US\$10/ton

FACT#5: If sold at US\$35/ton for boiler fuel, dry Vetiver grass is worth US\$2.50/MMbtu

FACT#6: At today's energy prices, VETIVER BIOMASS FUEL IS CHEAPER THAN COAL.

FACT#7: Vetiver grass and roots together constitute a "carbon sink" of more than 100 tons/hectare (dry)

FACT#8: Vetiver grass fuel (biomass fuel) is GOOD CARBON.

FACT#9: The USA produces already more than 10 Gigawatts of electricity with biomass (mostly wood).

FACT#10: Biomass fired boilers and power plants are old, low-tech, proven technology. (no research needed)

"Given good arable land (or even bad arable land) anywhere in the world, there is now MORE MONEY to be made per HECTARE, growing BIOMASS FUEL (Vetiver), than any of the major food crops".

Even small island Nations, like Haiti or the Dominican Republic (not to mention large tropical nations like India), would be better off pulling out some of the corn, sugar cane, bananas and beans, and plant Vetiver to produce electricity. These islanders produce electricity with very expensive diesel fuel. The entire country of the Dominican Republic needs only 1.5 Gigawatts of electricity. It was calculated that this amount of electricity can be produced with only 150,000 hectares of vetiver grass. This happens to be the same area planted in rice only in the Dominican Republic. They are better off buying subsidized rice, corn and sugar from US processors, and producing nothing but biomass fuel for in-country use and export.

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