

VETIVER SYSTEM APPLICATIONS IN FIJI



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Vetiver System Applications in Fiji



Indian immigrants brought Vetiver from South India to Fiji over 100 years ago for medicinal and thatching purposes. From there it spread over to all islands in South Pacific including Australia and New Zealand.

Its use for soil and water conservation was not realised until the 1950's when John Greenfield, who used it to control

soil erosion on sloping sugar plantations operated by Colonial Sugar Refinery (CSR). John introduced this technology to India and where it was adopted and promoted by the World Bank. John is known as 'The Father of VST'.



Terrace built up by trapped eroded soil after 20 years near Lautoka





**Terrace built up by
trapped eroded soil after
20 years near Lautoka**



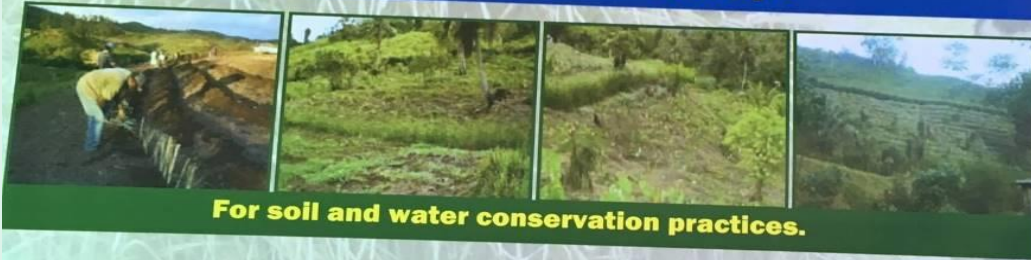


VERTIVER GRASS

"A Thin Line Against Erosion"



Research done in Waibau from 1992 to 2000. Soil loss from research site was 50 tons/ha/yr. With Vertiver hedge rows, only 1 ton of soil loss per hectare per year. Acceptable soil loss for tropical countries is 13.5 tons/ha/yr.



For soil and water conservation practices.



For soil bank stabilization to minimize landslide

For more information Contact:
Land Use Planning Section, Ministry of Agriculture HQ, Raiwaqa, Phone: (679) 3384 233, Lautoka Office, Phone: (679) 666 4425
Labasa Office, Phone: (679) 881 2466

"Capacity Building and Mainstreaming of Sustainable Land Management in Fiji"

Layout by:
Information & Communication Section, Ministry of Agriculture, Private Mail Bag, Raiwaqa. Phone (679) 338 3155/338 4233 Fax: (679) 338 7157



- Very good multi
- Flat well drained
- fertile alluvial s
- Virtually no lim
- suitable use

- Good arable la
- Flat to gently
- Deep to slight
- Fertile to mod
- Well to mode

- Fair arable la
- Flat to gently
- moderate lim
- Moderately c
- moderately f
- moderate to

- Marginal soil
- Flat to rolling
- to arable use
- intensive con
- Poor to very
- very shallow



Fijian Ministry of Agriculture is in partnership with the UN promoting Vetiver uses in Fiji

Addressing Coastal Erosion on Kia Island

Ministry of Agriculture planted Vetiver grass back in 2010 as it has been widely recommended as a community-based solution to coastal erosion. The 2010 grass had now grown huge, so the islanders used shoots from the existing clumps to replant the vetiver further along the coastline to increase its impact.

All the Islanders were impressed with the results, the village elders had noted that Yaro Village coastline had been eroded by over 100m just in the last 30 years.



Current Applications of Vetiver System Technology in Suva

1. **Ornamental: EXTRA shopping centre. Suva**
2. **Edge protection**
3. **Steep slope stabilisation**

Ornamental on footpath of at EXTRA

shopping centre,
Suva







01/03/2020

Protecting steep edges





Protecting steep slopes at Gas Depot

On advice from
Department of Agriculture













THANK YOU