

THAILAND VETIVER NETWORK

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Conference on Vetiver (ICV)**

**Office of the Royal Development Projects Board,
Bangkok, Thailand**



1. INTRODUCTION

- ❖ Vetiver activities in Thailand started from the work initiated by HM the King
- ❖ From 1991, HM conducted his own experiments; advised staff of Royal Development Study Centers, Royal Project's stations, and institutions he visited to do experiment.
- ❖ Realizing the fact that vetiver is most effective for soil erosion control, various institutions began to implement this technology.
- ❖ ORDPB established THVN in 1997 to coordinate activities conducted by around 40 agencies.



2. OBJECTIVES

- ❖ **Collect information regarding vetiver research and development in Thailand.**
- ❖ **Provide information on the application of vetiver system in Thailand to interested persons and organizations, both in Thailand and abroad.**
- ❖ **Coordinate activities with other vetiver networks.**
- ❖ **Disseminate information on vetiver, especially works conducted in Thailand in the form of electronic database and websites.**



3. MEMBERSHIP

- ❖ **All governmental and non-governmental organizations involved in implementation of vetiver projects as well as the use and utilization of vetiver in Thailand.**
- ❖ **Present members amount to about 40 organizations with more than 300 scientific and extension staff members.**
- ❖ **All staff members and their organizations are automatically registered as the THVN's members.**



4. ORGANIZATION

4.1 The Office

- ❖ Located at ORDPB in Bangkok
- ❖ Email: vetiver@mail.rdpb.go.th
- ❖ Website: <http://thvn.rdpb.go.th>



4.2 The Staff

- ❖ **No full-time staff.**
- ❖ **Person in charge: Ms. Suwanna Pasiri,
Director, Project Coordination Div. 4.**
- ❖ **Supported by the Committee for
Scientific, Evaluation and Monitoring of
the Vetiver Promotion Program.**



4.2 The Staff (Con't.)

- ❖ **Other staff members of the Project Evaluation Division of ORDPB and other institutions (e.g. implementing organizations and universities) also assist in the operation of THVN.**
- ❖ **The author is Acting Coordinator for THVN.**



4.3 The Budget

- ❖ **All operational costs of THVN are met by the government budget allocated to ORDPB**



5. ACTIVITIES

- ❖ **Collection of Information**
- ❖ **Newsletter**
- ❖ **Technical Bulletins**
- ❖ **Training Courses**
- ❖ **Provision of Plant Materials**



Collection of Information

- ❖ Manual on Vetiver Cultivation (3 editions, 9 booklets)



Collection of Information

Manual on International Training Course on the Vetiver System

MANUAL
OF THE
INTERNATIONAL TRAINING COURSE
ON
THE VETIVER SYSTEM

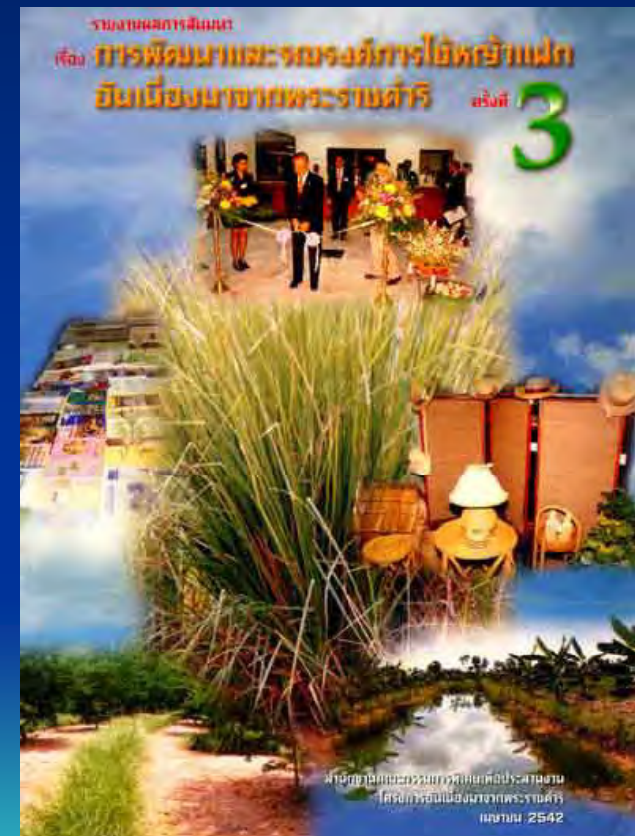
ORGANIZED BY
OFFICE OF THE ROYAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS BOARD
IN COOPERATION WITH
THE CHAIPATTANA FOUNDATION
WITH FUND DONATED BY
THE HEINEKEN BREWERIES CO. LTD.

19-30 NOVEMBER 2000

BANGKOK, THAILAND

Collection of Information

Reports of
National
Conferences
on Vetiver
(5 altogether)



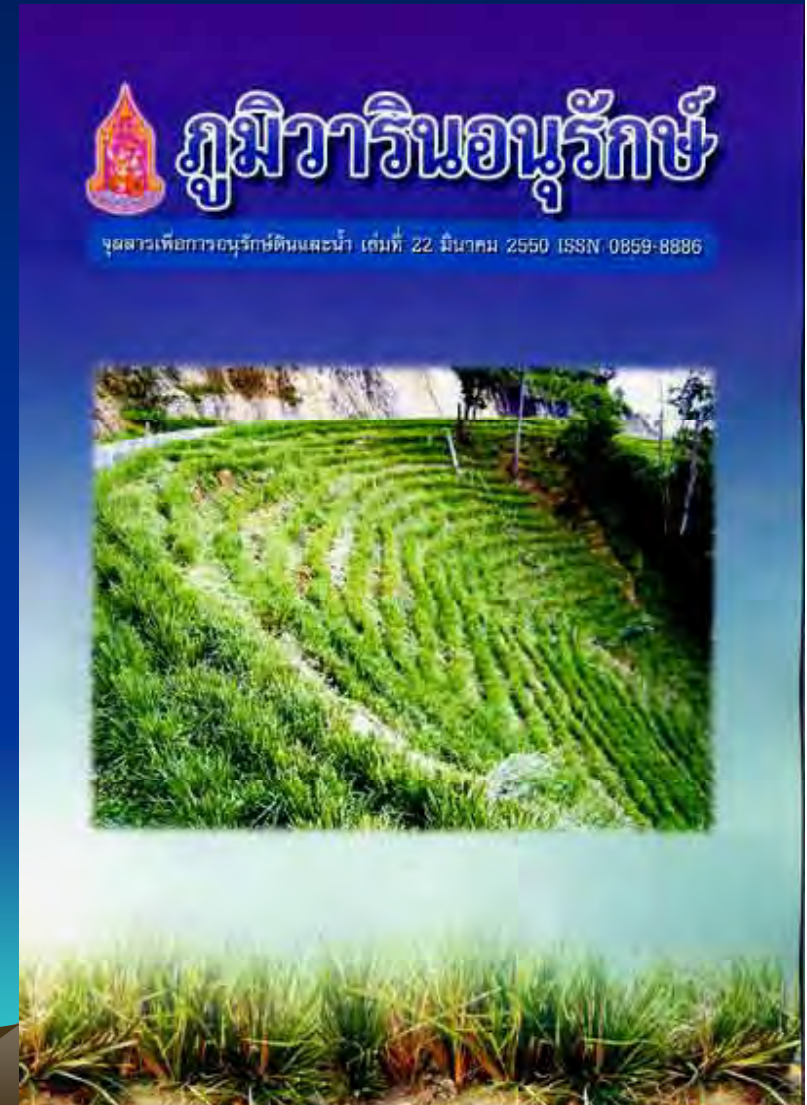
Collection of Information

Reports on the monitoring of vetiver activities of other agencies



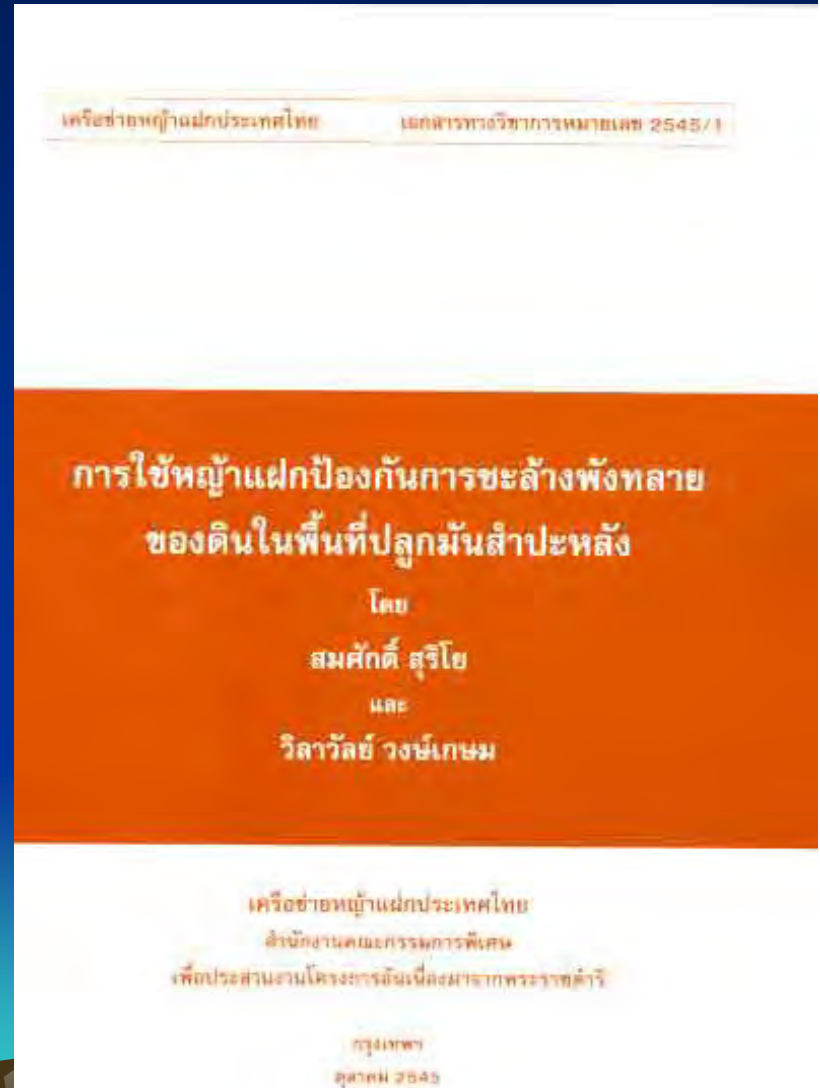
Newsletter

- ❖ A Thai-language newsletter, “Bhumivarin Anurak”, published since THVN’s inception in 1997.
- ❖ 23 issues have so far been published.
- ❖ The Editor - provided by the Land Development Department since 2007.



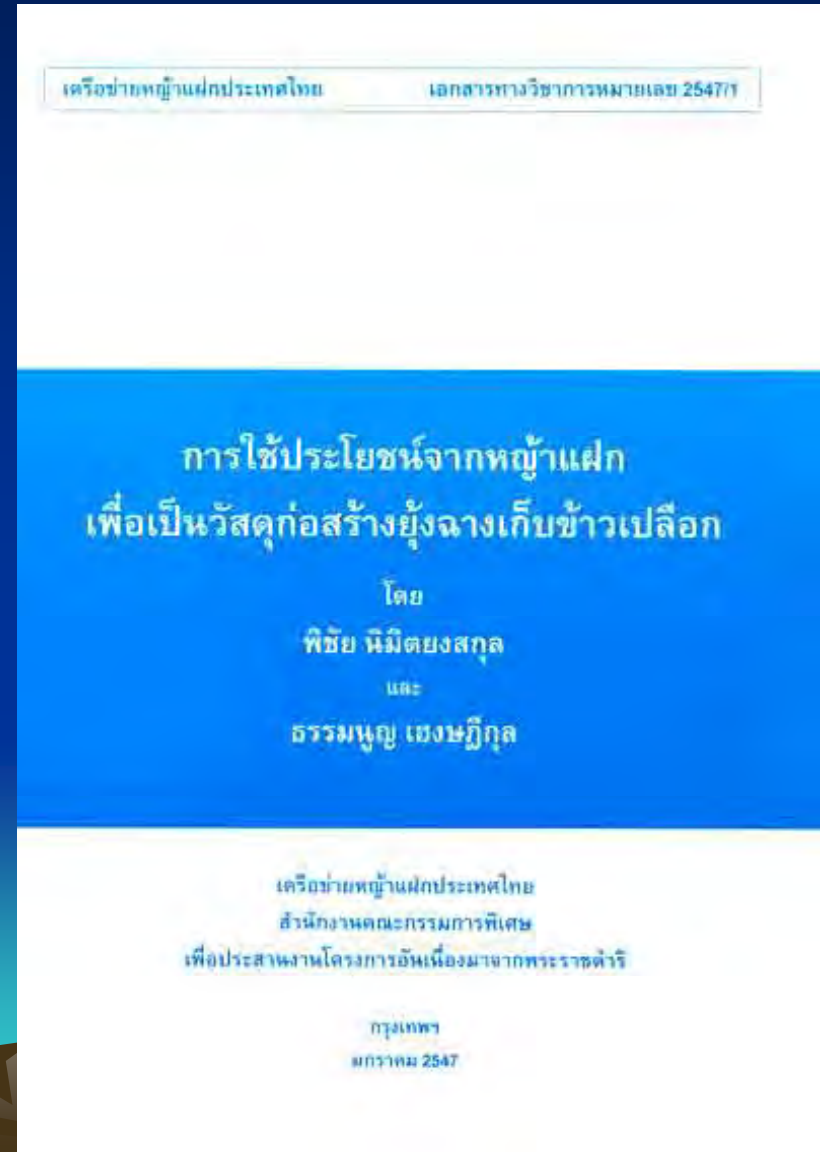
Technical Bulletins

“The use of vetiver for soil erosion prevention in cassava fields in Thailand” by Somsak Suriyo and Wilawan Wongkasem, Field Crops Promotion Division, Department of Agricultural Extension, October 2002.



Technical Bulletins

“Utilization of vetiver as construction material for paddy storage silo” by Pichai Nimityongsakul and Thammanoon Hengshadeekul, School of Civil Engineering, Asian Institute of Technology, January 2004.



Technical Bulletins

“A decade of promotion of vetiver cultivation according to His Majesty’s Initiatives of the PTT Public Co.”,
by PTT Public Co. Ltd., July 2007.

All three bulletins have been
edited by the author.

เครือข่ายหญ้าแฝกประเทศไทย

เอกสารทางวิชาการหมายเลข 2550/1

หนึ่งทศวรรษการส่งเสริมการปลูกหญ้าแฝก
ตามแนวพระราชดำริ
ของบริษัท ปตท. จำกัด (มหาชน)

โดย

บริษัท ปตท. จำกัด (มหาชน)

เครือข่ายหญ้าแฝกประเทศไทย

สำนักงานคณะกรรมการพิเศษ

เพื่อประสานงานโครงการอันเนื่องมาจากพระราชดำริ

กรกฎาคม 2550

Training Courses

About ten courses have been conducted. Examples:

- ❖ **International Training Course on the Vetiver System, 19-30 November 2000, in Bangkok, Thailand.**
- ❖ **Thai National Training Course on the Vetiver System, 12-15 December 2000, in Bangkok, Thailand.**
- ❖ **International Training Courses on Vetiver Handicraft Making:**
 - **First: 17-28 October 2005, for 3 Venezuelan and 1 El Salvadorian trainees, in Bangkok, Thailand.**
 - **Second: 1-11 May 2007, for 2 Indian trainees, in Bangkok, Thailand.**
 - - **Third: 23 October –3 November 2007, for 20 Chinese trainees, in Guilin, Guangxi, China**



Technical Supports

June 1999: Providing assistance to FAO-executed project to introduce vetiver grass to solve the problem of soil erosion in Shan State, Myanmar

Three Thai vetiver experts, Dr. Narong Chomchalow, Dr. Weerachai NaNakorn and Dr. Uthai Charanasri, were recruited to undertake the project whose mission was to:

- (i) advise and oversee the introduction of 200,000 vetiver slips to Myanmar,
- (ii) train senior project officials in conducting trials to address diverse erosion control requirements,
- (iii) train project extension staff on the vetiver system.



Technical Supports (Con't.)

- ❖ September 2000: Providing experts to help Madagascar to rehabilitate FCE Railway hit by the cyclone. Two Thai vetiver experts, the late Mr. Diti Hengchaovanich and Dr. Uthai Charanasri, were recruited to advise the FCE Railway to rehabilitate the cyclone hit area.
- ❖ VS was introduced to eliminate landslide while improving soil fertility and enhancing farmers' income.
- ❖ Three years later, the train line again operates properly and is protected from future cyclone damage by more than 2.6 million vetiver plants.

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Technical Supports (Con't.)

- ❖ **November 2007: Arranging the staff of T.I.G.E.R to visit a fiber board factory and the Department of Industrial Promotion.**
- ❖ **T.I.G.E.R. is an NGO in India whose objective includes planting of vetiver in a tiger sanctuary in India.**
- ❖ **The purpose of the visit is to explore the possibility of utilizing vetiver as fiber board and handicraft making, in order to provide extra income to the farmers working for T.I.G.E.R.**



Technical Supports (Con't.)

- ❖ **December 2007: Providing DNA analysis of 11 clones of vetiver to a Danida agency in Ghana**



Provision of Plant Materials

**Vetiver grass planting materials
have been provided free-of-charge
to the following countries:**

**Myanmar, Lao PDR, Vietnam, and
Cambodia**



Setting Up Website

<http://thvn.rdpb.go.th>

The present THVN website contains the following information in Thai languages:

- ❖ His Majesty the King of Thailand's initiatives
- ❖ The Committee on the Development and Promotion of the Utilization of Vetiver
- ❖ The Master Plans of the Development and Promotion of the Utilization of Vetiver
- ❖ Factual Tips about Vetiver
- ❖ Implementing Agencies
- ❖ Vetiver researches
- ❖ Publications

Setting Up Website (Con't.)

- ❖ Bhumivarin Anurak (Thai-language Vetiver Newsletter)
- ❖ **Vetiver news**
- ❖ **Articles**
- ❖ **Related Websites**
- ❖ **Members**
- ❖ **Website Administrator**
- ❖ The information updated from time to time.



6. CONCLUSION

- ❖ **Although not being officially designated with no budget of its own, THVN has served the objectives since its inception.**
- ❖ **Unlike other vetiver networks, there has never been full time staff of THVN.**
- ❖ **All the works by THVN were accomplished by the staff of ORDPB and voluntarily by vetiver experts of other cooperating agencies.**

