

ASSAM VETIVER

Background

Following the success of various applications of VST in southern India, particularly on erosion control of slopping land and road batters. The TVNI Coordinator of North Indian Vetiver Network , Shantanoo Bhattacharyya “imported” some south Indian Vetiver for erosion control in Assam around 2005.

However, the results of various trial sites around Assam were very disappointing, failures occurred on both sloping land and particularly serious on road batters.

Recent information* provided by Mondal and Patel (2020) has shed light to the most likely cause of this failure, the vetiver used at these sites was the wild, native Assam genotype, not the the south Indian genotype. The authors mentioned that usually, the local contractor supplied the relatively inexpensive Assam genotype, which has shorter root and growing wild in Assam, instead of the more expensive South Indian genotype.

DNA profiling of the various cultigens has confirmed that this Assam genotype of Vetiver is related to but not the same as the genotype of the South Indian cultivar, namely *Monto* and *Sunshine*..(*see:...https://www.vetiver.org/IND_Riverbank.pdf)

ASSAM VETIVER IN ITS NATURAL HABITAT



SHORTER ROOT ASSAM VETIVER



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**ASSAM VETIVER FLOWER AND LEAVES WHICH ARE VERY SIMILAR TO
THE SOUTH INDIAN GENOTYPE**



SOUTH INDIAN VETIVER PLANT AND ROOT



SOUTH INDIAN VETIVER LEAVES



NATURAL HABITAT OF ASSAM VETIVER





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FAILURE OF ASSAM VETIVER PLANTED SITE



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**SHANTANOO BHATTACHARYYA (L) WITH PAUL TRUONG AT
ASSAM VETIVER SITE IN 2011**

