

## Propagation of Vetiver

Use younger clumps and trim to 12 inches. Mature clumps are difficult to dig up.



Photo 1. Ian Millwood, Australia

Dig around the clump and take about 2 inches of root.



Photo 2. Ian Millwood, Australia

Pull the clump apart. This may be easier if you soak the clump for a day to wash away the dirt.



Photo 3. Ian Millwood, Australia

Each group for planting should have about 3 tillers. Clean out all dead tillers and trim roots to 2 inches and stalks to 8 to 12 inches.



Photo 4. Laura Martin

This tiller is cleaned and trimmed correctly. The tillers should then be soaked for at least 24 hours until new root growth is seen.



Photo 5. Vetiver International

## Planting

The tillers may be planted directly in soil, or they may be potted to plant later.



Photo 6. Vetiver International

The tillers or plants should be planted every 4 to 6 inches. A 20-foot row will need 40 to 60 plants. They may be planted in a trench or individual holes. Do not plant them too deep, the crown should be just below the surface. When

planting they are more quickly established if given some manure or fertilizer.

This is a well planted hedgerow.



Photo 7. Vetiver International

After planting make certain that the new slips or plants are firm in the soil recheck this every week. They also need to be watered about twice a week for the first 3 to 4 weeks. Once the plants are about 2 feet tall trim them back to encourage the roots to grow. A few plants may die; the gap needs to be replanted.

## Maintenance

Maintenance is particularly important in the 1<sup>st</sup> year. The early hedgerows need to be weeded. Once the plants are well established, they will tolerate weeds except for vines. Once a year trim the hedgerow down to about 18 inches. This may be done with a sickle or a hedge trimmer.



You may also trim the sides to allow for planting between the rows or to keep as a border. Once the hedge is trimmed down the center dead tillers and any other organic debris should be removed.



This allows the clump to grow and prevents termites from eating the dead wood.



Manure or compost may be added to the edge of the hedgerow, and the trimmed leaves can be used as mulch for the hedgerow, other crops, or trees.



### Resources.

1. Guayacan Farms STX 340-998-7333  
guayacanfarm@gmail.com
2. Laura Martin STT 240-277-2201  
LM6419@aol.com
3. We Grow Food, Inc. 340-727-6684  
<https://wegrowfoodinc.org/>
4. Vegetation for Erosion Control – A Manual for Residents. Coral Bay Community Council.  
[https://www.bviark.org/uploads/4/3/0/9/43091807/cbcc\\_landscape\\_manual\\_-\\_final\\_7\\_17\\_reduced.pdf](https://www.bviark.org/uploads/4/3/0/9/43091807/cbcc_landscape_manual_-_final_7_17_reduced.pdf)
5. Vetiver Network International -  
Vetiver.org
6. Vetiver facebook page

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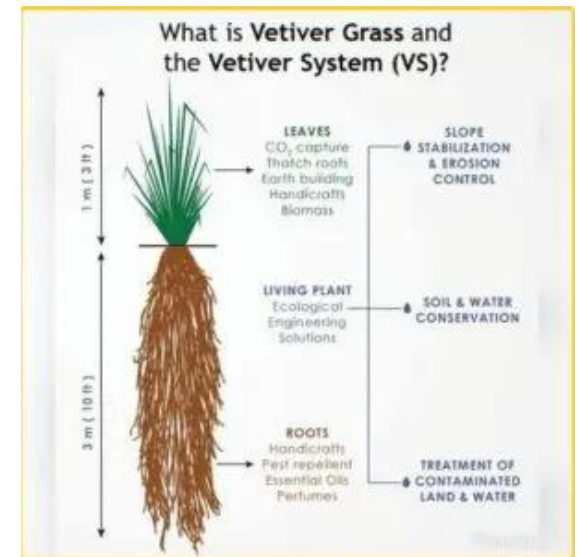


## VETIVER GRASS:

PROPAGATION,

PLANTING, and

MAINTENANCE



Vetiver International