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## REHABILITATION OF DEGRADED SOIL BY WATER EROSION FOR SOME WADIS IN NORTHWESTERN COAST – EGYPT USING SOME PLANTS

(CASE STUDY-SLOPING SOIL)

### **Submitted By**

### Galal Mohamed Abd El-Hamed El-Sherbeny

 B.Sc. of Agricultural Cooperative, Higher Institute of Agricultural Cooperative, 2000
 M. Sc. in Environmental Sciences, Faculty of Graduates Studies & Environmental Research, Ain Shams University, 2018

A Thesis Submitted in Partial Fulfillment
Of
The Requirement for the Doctor of Philosophy Degree
In
Environmental Sciences

Department of Environmental Agricultural Sciences Faculty of Graduates Studies & Environmental Research Ain Shams University

### APPROVAL SHEET

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2022

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### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

First and for most, let me praise and honor the Almighty God for the opportunity and capacity given to me to realize my aspiration. I really thank him for giving me the wisdom, knowledge and all the support I needed to complete this study, this far through all and difficult times. Then I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to Prof. Dr. Hesham Ibrahim El-kassas, Prof. of Soil Water Environment, IESR, Ain Shams University, for suggesting the problem of study and for his kind supervision throughout this work. It is a great honor to work under his supervision.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for my supervisor prof. Dr. Alaa El-Din Abd el-Fatah Ali, Prof. of Soils and Water, soil conservation Department, Desert Research center (DRC), Materia, Cairo, for supervision, continuous encouragement, his valuable guidance throughout my thesis work.

I really would like to express my deep gratitude and appreciation to Head of research Prof.Dr. **Khalid Eabd-Almneim Humam Zaid**, Medicinal and Aromatic Plants Researches Department, Horticulture Research Institute, ARC, Giza, Egypt, forProvide me with special information about the Indian vetiver grass, provide me with vetiver seedlings, continuous encouragement and valuable advices throughout this work.

All thanks and deepest gratitude to **Prof Dr. Saad Fawzy Tadros Sharkawy**, prof. of Soils and Water, Soil Conservation Department, Desert Research Center, Materia, Cairo, Egypt, for his valuable scientific assistance, advice throughout the research and helping during writing this thesis.

The author wishes also to extend his thanks to all **staff membersof Soil Conservation Department**, Desert Research Center, Materia, Cairo, Egypt, for their valuable advices and helping during carrying out the research.

My beloved families, especially, my wife and sons, thank you very much for your love and their continuous encouragement, helping me to accomplish this work. I want to express my appreciation to all people who in one way or the other contributed to the accomplishment of my thesis.

#### ABSTRACT

Hazards of soil erosion by rainfall are serious problems in Northwestern coast of Egypt (NWCZ) and lead to reducing the soil quality and increasing the degradation of soil resources. The present study includes field experiments for a one-year during the winter season of 2019/2020 in Wadi El-Raml area in the Northwestern Coast zone, NWCZ. The total treatments are as follow: Control without cultivation (C), barley without mulch cover (B), barley with mulch cover of rice straw of 0.5t.fed<sup>-1</sup> (BM0.5), barley with mulch cover of rice straw of 1t.fed<sup>-1</sup> (BM1), vetiver grass without mulch cover (V). vetiver grass with mulch cover of rice straw of 0.5t.fed<sup>-1</sup> (VM0.5), vetiver grass with mulch cover of rice straw of 1t.fed<sup>-1</sup> (VM1), Strip cultivation (vetiver grass - barley) (SVB), and Strip cultivation (barley - vetiver grass) (SBV), Six storms are effective during the study period as they caused runoff and consequently soil loss, The decrement percent runoff for different treatments varied from 31 to 72%. The runoff coefficient approaches 5.1, 3.5, 2.7, 2.3, 1.8, 1.5, 1.4, 1.9 and 2.2 % for (C), (B), (BM0.5), (BM1), (V), (VM0.5), (VM1), (SVB) and (SBV) treatments, respectively. The highest decrement is evident with the treatments cultivated by vetiver grass as compared to that cultivated by barley crop. The average reduction efficiency for soil loss due to cultivation by barley and vetiver grass on the sloping soil ranged from 43 to 57% and from 65 to 81%, respectively, compared with bare soil treatment. The soil loss ratio approaches 0.57, 0.48, 0.43, 0.35, 0.33, 0.29, 0.36 and 0.39 for (B), (BM0.5), (BM1), (V), (VM0.5), (VM1), (SVB) and (SBV) treatments, respectively. Fresh dry matter of Indian vetiver grass is

6.66 t.ha<sup>-1</sup>. The percentage increment of vetiver grass fresh dry matter was greater than the percentage increment of barley biological yield.

In conclusion, the results suggested that vetiver grass is a promising feed resource for soil protection from water erosion hazards, and as well as, feeding animals under environmental conditions of Northwestern Coast of Egypt.

**Keywords:** Vetiver grass, land degradation, water erosion, soil loss, runoff, North Western Coast zone of Egypt

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# INTRODUCTION

