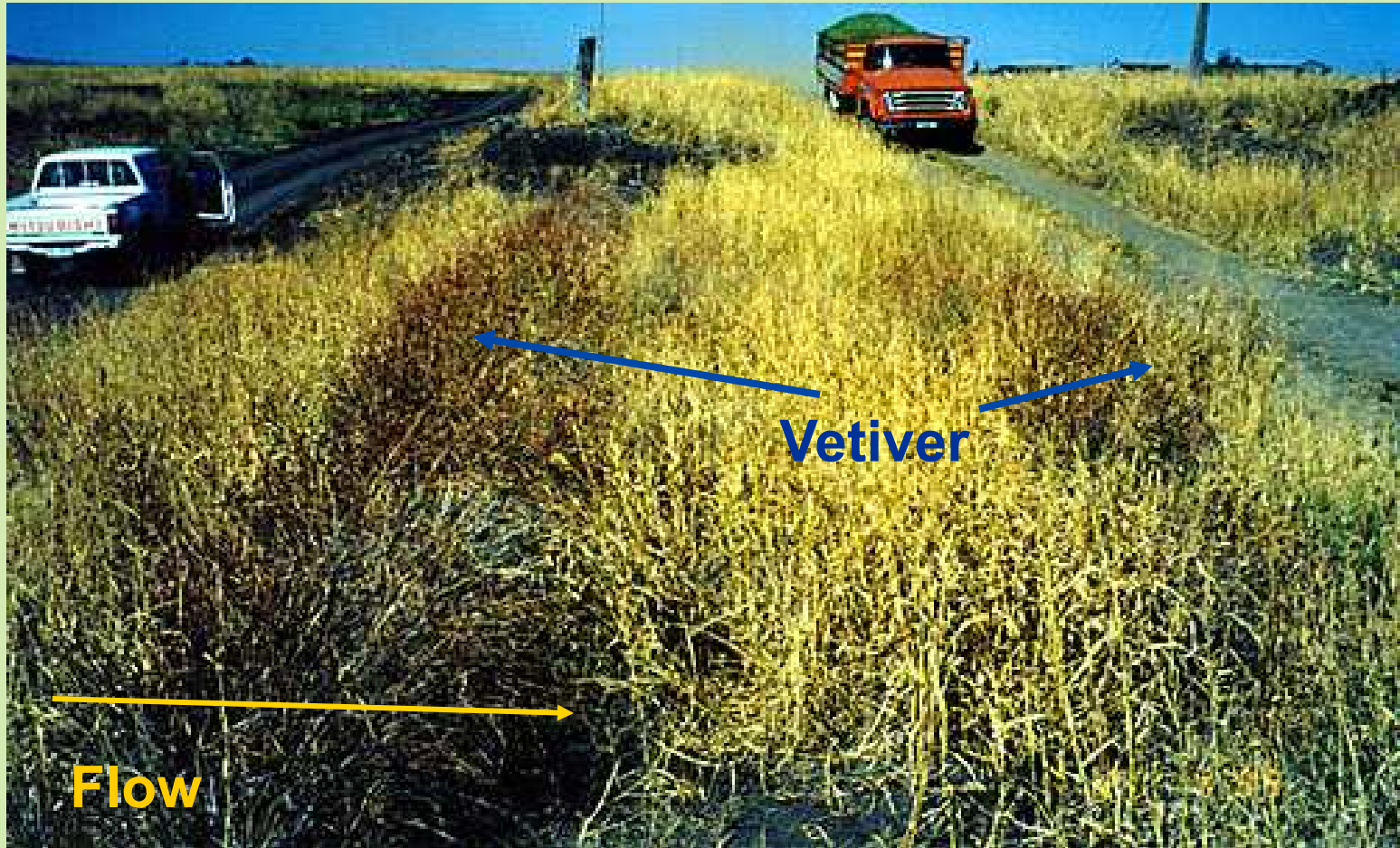


VETIVER SYSTEM FOR FLOOD EROSION CONTROL IN UPLAND AREAS



Australia: The concrete causeway on this farm road was often washed away by flood water which undermined the foundation of the concrete surface. Two rows of vetiver planted upstream of the causeway was the solution



A 3m deep flood swept through this causeway, completely submerged the vetiver rows



Although badly battered, the vetiver hedges held firm during the flood, preventing the undermining of the concrete causeway



Australia: This drainage channel was often damaged by flood, note that vetiver hedges bent under strong current





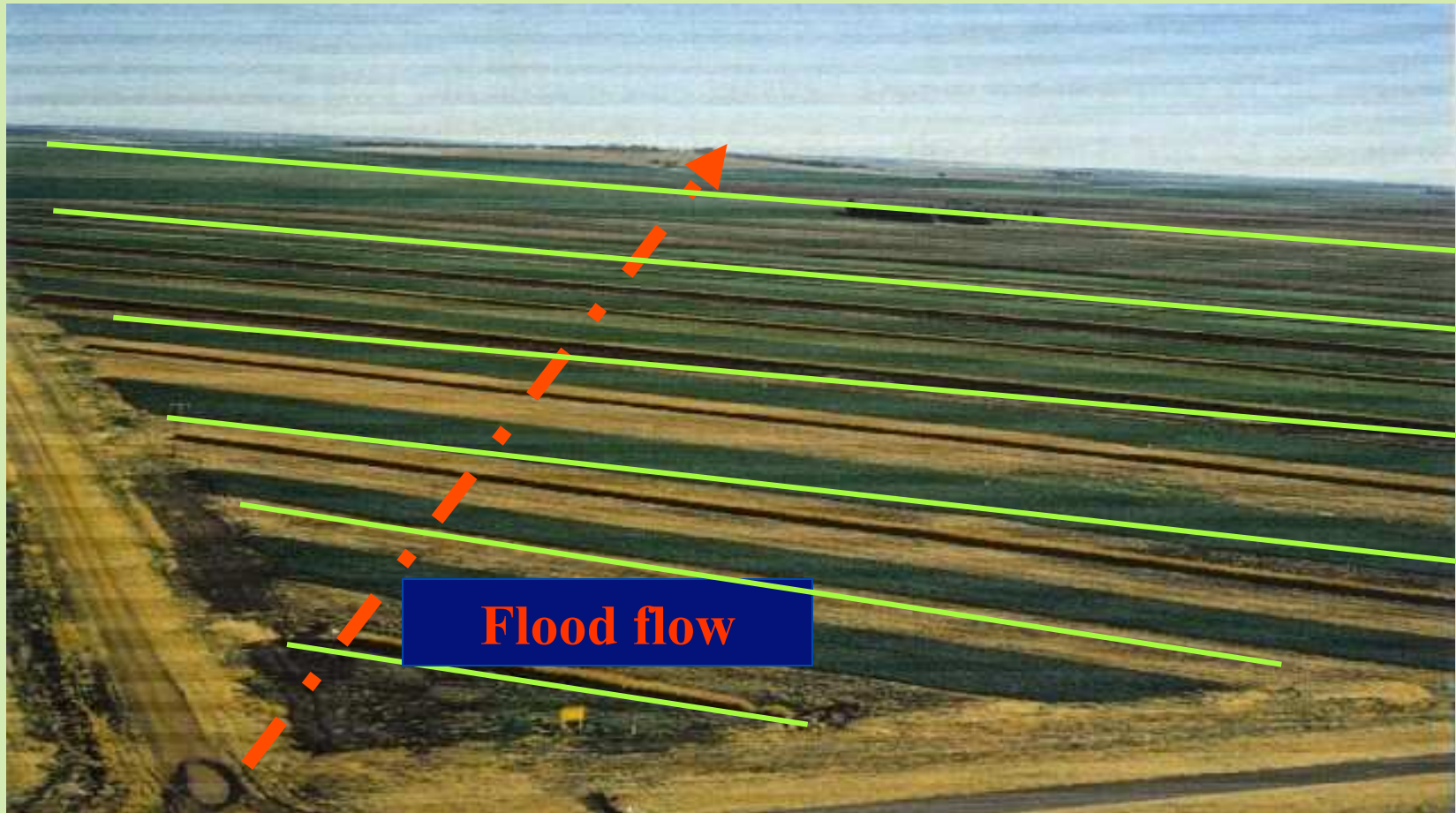
Submerged Vetiver hedges



Although only 3 month old, the young hedges provide a very effective protection with only minimal erosion at the head of the channel



Australia: Flood erosion is often severe on flood plains and this rich (black cotton vertisol) agricultural land is traditionally protected by strip cropping practices. Six rows of vetiver planted at 90m interval as an alternative flood erosion measure were extremely effective and resulted in more land for cropping.



A major flood event in 1996



No sign of rill and minimal surface erosion



No flood damage and an excellent crop of sorghum

