

VETIVER SYSTEM AND VITICULTURE

Its application in a Tuscany (Italy) Vineyard

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Massa Carrara

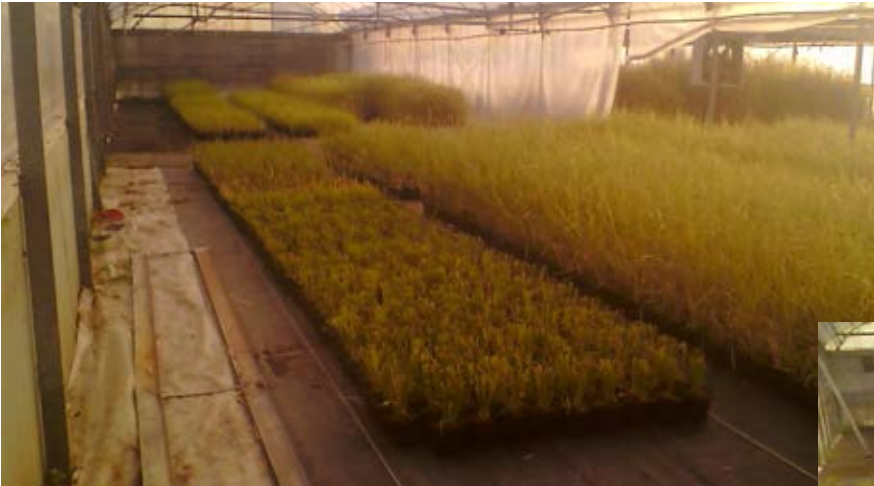
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- In 2010 our vineyard in Massa Carrara was subjected to landslides so we decided to protect the terraces against slippage and erosion using the Vetiver System. Since applying VS we have found that apart from slope stabilization and erosion control there have been other benefits:
- 11 % increase in grape weight (juiciness) for grapes grown on vetiver protected land, 20 kg per box, compared to 18 kg per box on the unprotected land (both areas having the same exposure to the sun). This increase is most likely due to improved soil moisture, organic matter, and soil organisms (biota), particularly on the steep slopes with shallow soils.
- 50% reduction in pesticide and fungicide applications. Without vetiver applications were necessary every 15 – 20 days, with vetiver application intervals were increased to 30 days or more without negative impact on the crop.
- 100% reduction in weeding intervals – as a result of using vetiver leaves as mulch we have reduced weeding (grass cutting) from 10 day to 20 - 25 day intervals. The mulch is good for 70-90 days.”

Propagation in Greenhouse



Propagation continued



Planting material



Vetiver hedge planted in vinyard



Vetiver and Grapes



Note the soil between hedgerows is mulched with vetiver leaves



Vetiver for slope protection



Excellent vetiver growth on these steep slopes

