## <u>VetiverSpain</u> <u>Introduction Document</u>

Thanks for getting in touch with us and showing an interest in Vetiver Grass. There is a lot of information in this document so pick out the topics that are relative to your needs. If you have specific questions let us know and we will build a custom document for you.

If you would like further information regarding Vetiver, we have what we call our "DATA Storage Site." This was our original website that has a lot of useful information that we have gathered over the last 10 years. This site includes a collection of many articles, photos, growth stories and of course our YouTube page. Our YouTube page has a collection of many videos from all over the world and numerous videos produced by VetiverSpain. It is located at www.vetiverspain.org vs our retail site that you already know which ends in .com. As technology was changing rapidly the .org site did not work 100% on some of the newer mobile devices. It still works perfectly well on any desktop computer. Hence, we built the new retail website with newer technology which is located at <u>www.vetiverspain.com</u>.

Vetiver Grass is best known for managing soil erosion as the roots grow 3 to 4 meters deep. Vetiver Grass stabilises slopes and preserves valuable topsoil that can be lost during heavy rains or water movement.

Vetiver Grass is a non-invasive clump grass. The roots hold water, which helps maintain soil moisture.

Vetiver Grass can also be used for landscaping as a structural hedge. The leaves can be used as a high-quality mulch. The leaves contain many nutrients as the deep root structure gives the plant access to these nutrients that normal plants cannot reach. Additionally, Vetiver is a nutritional animal feed as a replacement for hay. We use it in our chicken pen as it is a natural insect repellent, and it helps keep down the mites.

This not only has been our experience, but it is a phenomenon that has been recognized worldwide and regularly documented by experts in the field.

You can check out many more examples on the <a href="https://www.vetiver.org">www.vetiver.org</a> website that was originally funded about 50 years ago by World Bank to help developing nations to preserve valuable topsoil. It is a nonprofit organisation with a lot of information collected worldwide. We are a Certified member and donator to the organisation known as TVNI, (The Vetiver Network International.)

We live in the Village of Sayalonga, Spain. We are about 12 minutes from the A-7 Motorway exit 277 (Algarrobo). We are about 45 minutes east of Malaga on the A-7.

If you wish to visit our nursery, we always welcome visitors who have an interest in Vetiver to visit us and see our facilities. That way you can see how we have

used Vetiver to solve our erosion issues. Visits are by appointment only and we can send you directions via email or WhatsApp.

At our location we are at an elevation of 500 metres, and we can plant all year long. We get the fastest and the best results planting in late March and early summer. The plants then have the advantage of a longer summer growing season. Vetiver Grass loves the heat of summer.

Once established Vetiver Grass will survive -20C to +50C. That is a very wide range of temperatures and Vetiver Grass also has a life expectancy of over 100 years.

Here is a link to the weather website we use. Use this link to compare your weather conditions to ours in Sayalonga. The important graph to look at is the temperature chart showing LOW night-time temperatures. As you will see we get a few months where our low temperatures are below 10C. At these temperatures the plant goes dormant. They do not die but they will show little if any above ground growth while the roots are still growing.

Click or cut and paste into a browser. <a href="https://www.holiday-weather.com/sayalonga/averages/">https://www.holiday-weather.com/sayalonga/averages/</a>

For planting we recommend 3-5 Vetiver bare root slips per linear metre depending on your level of erosion or the steepness of a slope. Therefore, a line of 30 linear metres would require about 100 plants

that are planted about 30 cm apart or 150 plants if planted 20 cm apart. Some areas with worse erosion issues may require more than one row or it may be a good idea to plant the slips closer together as a mature plant has a crown of about 30cm across. Vetiver Grass like any plant needs to be watered regularly after planting to get it established. This usually takes about 3-4 months depending on your soil, altitude, weather, and the month planted, etc.

Do you have irrigation questions? We can also advise on irrigation systems regarding automated systems that we use which have been long lasting and trouble free. We have about 30 zones of irrigation on our property.

Vetiver is one of the easiest plants to grow and these resilient plants have a worldwide survivability rate of over 95%.

Current pricing of Vetiver is shown on our website <a href="https://www.vetiverspain.com">www.vetiverspain.com</a> but we also welcome the opportunity to quote for any of your individual projects.

Our stocks are vast with over 1 million plants currently in our nursery. Vetiver Grass is usually supplied as bare root slips with at least 1 tiller. If you would like potted Vetiver Grass, we have these available for pickup only in early Spring. The weight adds to the cost of shipping, so it is not recommended. They must be ordered in the fall so we can plant them in one of our greenhouses for harvesting in the spring.

We normally harvest later in the week and ship on Tuesday or Wednesday. We are fully licensed to ship throughout the EU.

## Here are some of our favourite links.

The Santa Marta Cooperative page where they use Vetiver to clean contaminated water which is the biproduct of processing grapes and olives. <a href="https://www.vetiverspain.org/santa-marta.html">https://www.vetiverspain.org/santa-marta.html</a>

A video of Anna packaging an order of Vetiver for shipment.

https://youtu.be/bih1nZ0Kn10

Stephan Schwab from Granja Caimito <a href="https://www.youtube.com/c/ProjectGranjaCaimito">https://www.youtube.com/c/ProjectGranjaCaimito</a>

Vetiver, A Farmers Friend <a href="https://youtu.be/TY7VYCsFDww">https://youtu.be/TY7VYCsFDww</a>

One of our gardeners showing how simple it is to plant Vetiver.

https://youtu.be/Vb4AlEPw6wk

Vetiver being used to control water flows by Dick Grimshaw from TVNI (The Vetiver Network International.)

https://www.facebook.com/groups/vetivernetwork/permalink/10159607826942760/

Lemon grass

https://www.vetiverspain.org/lemon-grass.html#

Moringa Seeds and our Organic Moringa Powder. <a href="https://www.vetiverspain.org/moringa-oleifera-">https://www.vetiverspain.org/moringa-oleifera-</a>.html

If you have any further questions, please send them to us by email or WhatsApp or if you wish to speak to a real person. Please do not hesitate to give us a call and our contact information is below.

Kind regards,

Petra y Susanne

Certified Suppliers of Vetiver

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