

TABLE OF CONTENT

TABLE OF CONTENT	IV
LIST OF TABLES	XI
LIST OF FIGURES.....	XIII
LIST OF PLATES	XVII
Acknowledgements.....	XVIII
Abstract	XIX
Chapter 1	
General Introduction	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Objectives.....	3
1.2.1 Overall objective.....	3
1.2.2 Specific objectives	3
Chapter 2	
Literature Review.....	4
2.1 Botany of the plant.....	4
2.2 Plant Classification	5
2.2.1. Scientific Classification of <i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i> (L.)	5
2.2.2. Different botanical names used for <i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i> (L.).....	5
2.2.3. Synonyms used for <i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i> (L.).....	6

2.3 Distribution of the plant	6
2.4 Climatic and soil requirements for the plant	7
2.4.1 Elevation	7
2.4.2 Temperature.....	7
2.4.3. Rainfall.....	7
2.4.4 Soil.....	7
2.4.4.1 Soil types	7
2.4.4.2 Soil pH.....	8
2.4.4.3 Soil nutrients.....	8
2.5 Uses of Vetiver plant.....	8
2.5.1 Medicinal uses of Vetiver plant.....	9
2.5.2 Other uses of Vetiver plant.....	10
2.6 Ethno-pharmacology and pharmacological characteristics of <i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>	11
2.6.1. Antibiotic actions.....	11
2.6.2. Antimalarial action	11
2.6.3. Control of diabetes.....	11
2.6.4. Lotion	11
2.6.5. Side effects	12
2.6.6. Shelf life of processed roots	12
2.6.7. Precaution and contra-indications.....	12

2.7 Agronomic practices of Vetiver.....	12
2.7.1 Propagation.....	13
2.7.2 Nursery management practices.....	13
2.7.3. Planting technique of Vetiver.....	14
2.7.3.1. Preparing the soil for planting.....	14
2.7.3.2. Planting time.....	14
2.7.3.3. Planting density.....	15
2.7.3.4. Planting.....	15
2.7.4. Manuring and fertilization.....	15
2.7.5. Weed control.....	16
2.7.6. Irrigation.....	17
2.7.7. Earthing up.....	17
2.7.8. Pest and diseases.....	17
2.7.9. Inter cropping.....	18
2.7.10 Harvesting.....	18
2.7.11 Washing / Cleaning.....	19
2.7.12 Drying.....	19
2.8 Root yields.....	19
2.9 Storage of roots.....	20
2.10 Vetiver oil.....	20

2.10.1. Oil extraction techniques for Vetiver.....	20
2.10.1.1. Trituration of the roots	20
2.10.1.2 Distillation of the oil	21
2.10.1.3 Decantation and dehydration	22
2.10.1.4 Testing.....	22
2.10.2 Yield and quality of the oil.....	22
2.10.3 Storage of Vetiver oil.....	22
2.10.4. Characteristics of Vetiver oil.....	23
2.10.4.1. Physical characteristics of Vetiver oil.....	23
2.10.4.2. Chemical characteristics of oil.....	24
2.10.5 Demand and supply of Vetiver oil.....	26
2.11 Commercial cultivation of Vetiver	26
 Chapter 3	
Materials and Methods.....	28
3.1 Experimental sites and description of the sites.....	28
3.1.1 Climatic data and soil conditions of the experimental site	28
3.2 Nursery management practices for planting material production.....	30

3.3 Selection of the most promising potting mixture for optimum growth, yield and oil quality of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>).....	31
3.3.1 Determination of the total oil content	32
3.3.2 Determination of the oil quality	33
3.4 Selection of the most promising compost mixture for better growth, yield and oil quality of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>).....	34
3.5 Selection of the most suitable pot height and harvesting stage for optimum growth, yield and oil quality of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>)	36
3.5.1 Determination of root fiber content of Vetiver	36
3.6 Selection of the most promising fertilizer mixture and irrigation frequency for optimum growth, yield and oil quality of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>).....	37
3.7 Selection of the most suitable planting method for optimum growth and yield of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>)	40
3.8 Selection of the most promising plant spacing for optimum growth and yield of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>)	41
3.9 Selection of the most promising organic and inorganic fertilizer mixture for optimum growth, yield and oil quality of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>).....	43
 Chapter 4	
Results and Discussion.....	45
4.1 Selection of the best potting mixture for optimum growth, yield and oil quality of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>)	45
4.1.1 Effect of different potting mixtures on biomass production of Vetiver	45
4.1.2 Effect of different potting mixtures on oil content and oil quality of Vetiver ...	50

4.2 Selection of the best compost mixture for optimum growth, yield and oil quality of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>)	54
4.2.1 Background	54
4.2.2 Effect of different compost mixtures on biomass production of Vetiver	54
4.2.3 Effect of different compost mixtures on oil content and oil quality of Vetiver ..	57
4.3 Selection of the most suitable pot height and harvesting stage for optimum growth, yield and oil quality of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>)	63
4.3.1 Effect of different pot heights and harvesting stages on biomass production of Vetiver	63
4.3.2 Effect of different harvesting stages on oil content and oil quality of Vetiver ..	66
4.4 Selection of the most promising fertilizer mixture and irrigation frequency for optimum growth, yield and oil quality of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>).....	74
4.4.1 Effect of fertilizer mixtures and irrigation frequencies on biomass production of Vetiver.....	74
4.4.2 Effect of fertilizer mixtures and irrigation frequencies on oil content and oil quality of Vetiver	77
4.5 Selection of the most suitable planting method for optimum growth and yield of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>).....	82
4.5.1 Effect of different planting methods on biomass production of Vetiver	82
4.5.2 Effect of different planting methods on oil content of Vetiver	86
4.5.3 Observations on roots morphology.....	87
4.5.4 Income- expenditure analysis	88

4.6 Selection of the most promising plant spacing for optimum growth and yield of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>).....	91
4.6.1 Effect of different plant spacings on biomass production of Vetiver.....	91
4.6.2 Effect of different plant spacings on oil content of Vetiver.....	96
4.7 Selection of the most promising fertilizer mixture for optimum growth, yield and oil quality of Vetiver (<i>Vetiveria zizanioides</i>).....	98
4.7.1 Effect of different fertilizer mixtures on biomass production of Vetiver	98
4.7.2 Effect of different fertilizer mixtures on oil content and oil quality of Vetiver	101
Chapter 5	
Conclusions and Recommendations	107
5.1 Conclusions	107
5.2 Recommendations.....	108
5.2.1 Cultivation of Vetiver in pots	108
5.2.2 Cultivation of Vetiver in field.....	108
References	109

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Title	Page
Table 2.1:	Main characteristics of the best Vetiver oil	23
Table 3.1:	Monthly average Climatic data [Temperature (T), Rainfall (RF), Relative humidity (RH) and Number of rainy days (NRD)] of the experimental site for the study period from January 2007 to May 2010.	29
Table 3.2:	Different combinations of organic and inorganic fertilizer	38
Table 3.3:	Chemical composition of compost used in the pot experiment	38
Table 3.4:	Different mixtures of organic and inorganic fertilizers	44
Table 4.1:	Changes in root and shoot dry weight (g)/plant of Vetiver as affected by different potting mixtures at different harvesting stages.	46
Table 4.2:	Changes in number of leaves/plant and tillers/plant of Vetiver as affected by different potting mixtures at different harvesting stages.	47
Table 4.3:	The changes in oil content (%) and oil quality of Vetiver grown in different potting mixtures.....	51
Table 4.4:	Chemical composition of two compost types used in the experiment	54
Table 4.5:	Changes in root dry weight (g/plant), shoot dry weight (g/plant), number of leaves/plant, number of tillers/plant of Vetiver as affected by different pot heights (cm) at different harvesting stages.....	64
Table 4.6:	Changes in root and shoot dry weight (g/plant), number of leaves (plant) and number of tillers (plant) of Vetiver as affected by different percentages of organic and inorganic fertilizers and irrigation frequencies at 9 months after planting. ..	75

Table 4.7: Changes of oil content and different chemical compounds in Vetiver as affected by different ratios of organic and inorganic fertilizers and irrigation frequencies at 9 months after planting 79

Table 4.8: Income-expenditure analysis for Vetiver in different planting methods 89

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure	Title	Page
Figure 2.1:	Structural formulae of main active ingredients (α -vetivone, β - vetivone, Isovalencenol, Khusimol and β - vetivenene) present in Vetiver oil	25
Figure 3.1:	Diagrammatic illustration of Vetiver oil quality determination path.....	33
Figure 4.1:	Changes in root dry weight (g)/plant of Vetiver with different compost mixtures at 6 and 9 months after planting.	55
Figure 4.2:	Changes in shoot dry weight (g)/plant of Vetiver with different compost mixtures at 6 and 9 months after planting.....	55
Figure 4.3:	Changes in number of leaves/plant of Vetiver with different compost mixtures at 6 and 9 months after planting.....	56
Figure 4.4:	Changes in number of tillers/plant of Vetiver with different compost mixtures at 6 and 9 months after planting.	56
Figure 4.5:	Changes in oil content (%) of Vetiver with different compost mixtures at 9 months after planting.....	58
Figure 4.6:	Changes in β -Vetivenene (%) of Vetiver with different compost mixtures at 9 months of planting.....	59
Figure 4.7:	Changes in Khusimol (%) of Vetiver with different compost mixtures at 9 months of planting.....	59
Figure 4.8:	Changes in Isovaloncenol (%) of Vetiver with different compost mixtures at 9 months of planting.	60
Figure 4.9:	Changes in α -Vetivone (%) of Vetiver with different compost mixtures at 9 months of planting.	60

Figure 4.10: Changes in β -Vetivone (%) of Vetiver with different compost mixtures at 9 months of planting.....	61
Figure 4.11: Changes in oil content (%) of Vetiver as affected by different harvesting intervals.....	66
Figure 4.12: Changes in Khusimol content (%) of Vetiver with different harvesting intervals.....	67
Figure 4.13: Changes in β - Vetivenene content (%) of Vetiver with different harvesting intervals.....	68
Figure 4.14: Changes in β - Vetivone content (%) of Vetiver with different harvesting intervals.....	68
Figure 4.15: Changes in α - Vetivone content (%) of Vetiver with different harvesting intervals.....	69
Figure 4.16: Changes in Iso-valencinol content (%) of Vetiver with different harvesting intervals.....	70
Figure 4.17: Changes in root fiber content (%) of Vetiver as affected by different harvesting intervals.....	70
Figure 4.18: Impact of different planting methods on root dry weight of Vetiver at 6 and 9 months after planting.....	82
Figure 4.19: Impact of different planting methods on shoot dry weight of Vetiver at 6 and 9 months after planting.....	83
Figure 4.20: Impact of different planting methods on number of leaves of Vetiver at 6 and 9 months after planting.....	83
Figure 4.21: Impact of different planting methods on number of tillers of Vetiver at 6 and 9 months after planting.....	84

Figure 4.22: Impact of different planting methods on non-harvestable root dry weight of Vetiver at 6 and 9 months after planting.	85
Figure 4.23: Impact of different planting methods on oil content (%) of Vetiver at 6 and 9 months after planting.....	86
Figure 4.24: Changes in root dry weight (g) of Vetiver at different spacings at 9 months after planting.....	91
Figure 4.25: Changes in shoot dry weight (g) of Vetiver at different spacings at 9 months after planting.....	92
Figure 4.26: Changes in number of leaves of Vetiver at different spacings at 9 months after planting.	92
Figure 4.27: Changes in number of tillers of Vetiver at different spacings at 9 months after planting.	93
Figure 4.28: Changes in non-harvestable root dry weight (g) of Vetiver at different spacings at 9 months of planting.	94
Figure 4.29: Changes in oil content (%) of Vetiver at different spacings at 9 months of planting.	97
Figure 4.30: Changes in root dry weight (g) of Vetiver with different rates of organic and inorganic fertilizers at 9 months after planting.	98
Figure 4.31: Changes in shoot dry weight (g) of Vetiver with different rates of organic and inorganic fertilizers at 9 months after planting.	99
Figure 4.32: Changes in number of leaves of Vetiver with different rates of organic and inorganic fertilizers at 9 months after planting.	99
Figure 4.33: Changes in number of tillers of Vetiver with different rates of organic and inorganic fertilizers at 9 months after planting.	100

Figure 4.34: Changes in oil content (%) of Vetiver with different rates of organic and inorganic fertilizers at 9 months after planting.	102
Figure 4.35: Changes in β – Vetivenene content (%) of Vetiver with different rates of organic and inorganic fertilizers at 9 months after planting.	102
Figure 4.36: Changes in β – Vetivone content (%) of Vetiver with different levels of organic and inorganic fertilizers at 9 months after planting.	103
Figure 4.37: Changes in Khusimol content (%) of Vetiver with different levels of organic and inorganic fertilizers at 9 months after planting.	104
Figure 4.38: Changes in α - Vetivone content (%) of Vetiver with different levels of organic and inorganic fertilizers at 9 months after planting.	104
Figure 4.39: Changes in Iso- valencinol content (%) of Vetiver with different levels of organic and inorganic fertilizers at 9 months after planting.	105

LIST OF PLATES

Plate	Title	Page
Plate 3.1:	Soxhlet apparatus for extraction of Vetiver root oil in the laboratory.....	32
Plate 4.1:	Vetiver roots and rootlets grown in the top soil: sand (1:2) (a) top soil: sand: coir dust (1:2:2) (b) potting mixtures	50
Plate 4.2:	Vetiver roots forming a mat at the bottom of the pot	65
Plate 4.3:	Root system of Vetiver grown in ridges and furrows (a), raised beds (b) and planting pits (c)	87