



**QUARTERLY RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORT
QUARTER: FOURTH QUARTER (October - December 2024)**

Research Title: Assessment of Climate Smart Farming Scheme in Hilly Upland Areas

I. Program/Project/Study Objectives

Project Objectives:

1. To assess and evaluate the influence of the different double hedgerow combinations on the soil erodibility.
2. To evaluate the effects of different soil amendments on the growth and yield performance of sweet potato (*Ipomoea batatas*)
3. To assess the physico-chemical properties of soil on the influence of IMO6, EM and Vermicast application in the contour hedgerows.
4. To determine the nutrient uptake and physico-chemical properties of the soil on the influence of IMO6, EM and Vermicast application in the contour hedgerows.

II. Relevance to VSU & College's Thrust and Priorities: Relevant

III. Highlights of accomplishments within the quarter

A. Targets for the quarter

1. Regular observation and checking on the experimental site.
2. Double hedgerow plant maintenance, hedgerow biomass harvesting and sub sample collection for plant biomass analysis.
3. Data gathering on soil erodibility set-up.
4. Laboratory analysis for soil and tissue samples.
5. Harvesting of Double hedgerow plant for next cropping.
6. Harvesting of newly planted crop.
7. Encode the data.

B. Highlights of accomplishments

1. The experimental site was prepared for the next cropping season by weeding and cleaning the area. Trails leading to the project site and surrounding areas were also cleared by cutting grass.
2. Hedgerow plants were harvested, with branches and leaves weighed separately. Subsamples were collected, air-dried, oven-dried, and weighed to determine plant biomass.
3. The fertilizers needed for planting was prepared and applied in the area.

