

RESTORING AGRICULTURAL LANDS: ANALYSIS OF SOIL COMPACTION AND GERMINATION

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Abstract: Soil compaction is a major problem with restoring retired agricultural land. This research examines the successful germination of Indian Grass (*Sorghastrum nutans*) in agricultural soils. Treatments for the soil included: compacting the soil with surface seeding (control), compacting soil with drill seeding, no compaction with surface seeding, and no compaction with drill seeding. All treatments were replicated 10 times. It is hypothesized that non-compacted with drill seeding will have the most successful germination, while compacted soils with surface seeding will experience the lowest germination.