Vegetative Establishment

No appreciable vegetative growth occurred until April. In May, a plant count was conducted on the plots. The

... which was established on the untreated plots was at the lower end of the plots.

... the results which are presented in Table 1 and none of the results which are presented in Table 1 are influenced by the vegetation which was established before those dates. The reduction in erosion was not caused by an increased aggregation or binding of soil particles, but by a modification of the wetting characteristics of the soil.

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The visual appearance of an untreated plot (A) and a treated plot (B) after the first rain is presented in Fig. 1. All untreated plots exhibited deep rills measuring up to 4 inches in depth. These rills were observed to occur from the upper boundary of the plot to the bottom. Very minor rilling was observed on one of the treated plots and no visible rilling on the other two treated plots.

The reduction in erosion was not caused by an increased aggregation or binding of soil particles, but by a modification of the wetting characteristics of the soil.

Some difficulty was encountered in measuring runoff because of an occasional malfunctioning tipping bucket. On two occasions, some water was lost by overflow from the trough without going through the tipping bucket. Because of these difficulties, detailed data on runoff are not presented. The data which were obtained, however, strongly indicated that treatment reduced runoff.