Comparison of Effective Micro-organisms and phosphate fertilizer in developing degraded mine lands

M. Wood, D. Mosby and M. Doolan

EM Research Organization, Okinawa, Japan

Abstract: The state of Missouri has many degraded lands due to mining. These soils have a high content of lead and zinc. There is no vegetation and the site has a low diversity index. Heavy metals are frequently leached into ground water. Experiments were conducted to test the benefits of adding EM with turkey waste, lime and phosphate fertilizer. Application of EM increased vegetation, along with a significant improvement in the diversity index. Observations highlight greater wildlife and birds in EM treated regions. The potential of reclaiming degraded mining sites with EM is presented.