

Ecological Restoration

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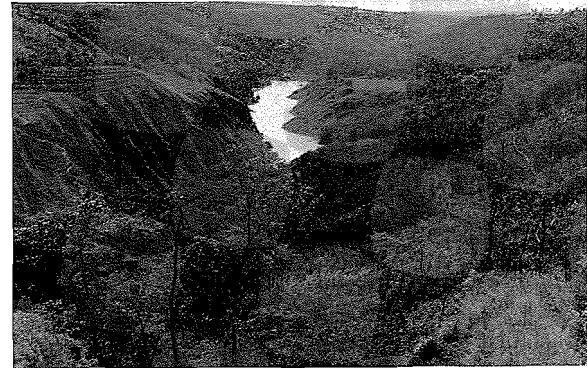
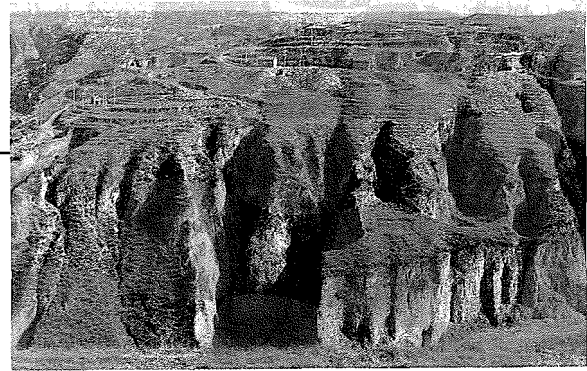
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Ecological rehabilitation of the Loess Plateau in northwest China. The original deciduous, broadleaf forests were cleared for agricultural purposes, resulting in widespread soil loss and erosion (top). In 1982, the Northwest China Institute of Water and Soil Conservation planted mixtures of oaks and pines along with shrubs, such as cut-leaf chaste tree (*Vitex negundo*) and spirea (*Spirea chinensis*), to slow the erosion and reestablish permanent vegetation (bottom, 1988). They also added apple trees for economic purposes. A wide variety of ecological restoration and rehabilitation projects are now underway in China, and Chinese ecologists are meeting regularly to discuss their findings. For a report about the 2002 Workshop on Restoration Ecology in China, see page 122. Photos courtesy of Dr. Ren Hai

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