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Denuded Shiwalik watershed (1.5 ha) was selected for water resource development. The contour trenches made on silty clay soil silted faster than those made on a patch of sandy loam soil. The physico-chemical properties of both sandy loam and silty clay soil were moderated in favour of plant growth after detachment and transport to depositional sites. After the treatment and closure, the improvement in vegetation cover as shown by increase in grass yield was faster on sandy loam than on silty clay soil.