CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2005 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)
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Project Number
J1606

Project Title
The Effect of Color on Cherry Trees

Abstract

Objectives/Goals
I want to determine if there is one color that can be used to paint our cherry trees that will protect them from sunburn without causing harvest delays.

Methods/Materials
My experimental method utilizes a Random Block Design comprised of 12 cherry trees in our orchard. I used a power sprayer to paint 4 trees white, 4 trees black, 4 trees silver, and 4 trees were left unpainted as my control. I took numerous measurements over a one year period to evaluate tree growth, pre harvest data, and post harvest data.

Results
Based on all the field tests and resulting data, the color white had the most favorable overall response on the trees followed by silver and then black.

Conclusions/Discussion
I conclude that my hypothesis was incorrect. Silver was not the color that would provide the best overall qualities for sunburn protection and elimination of harvest delays.

Summary Statement
How different colors painted on a tree surface can effect tree health and fruit maturity.

Help Received
Parents purchased supplies; Dad helped me paint the trees; Mom kept me focused; I used my sisters old board.