

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2006 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s) Laura N. Meert Project Number

Project Title

Worming Around: The Effect of Earthworms on Plant Growth

Objectives/Goals

Abstract

My project was to determine if earthworms affect the growth of a wheat plant. I believe that the more earthworms in the soil, the higher the plant will grow.

Methods/Materials

In my project, I used 10 plastic cups, 36 earthworms, potting soil, water, measuring cups, 20 wheat seeds, and a ruler. In each cup, I put potting soil, 2 wheat seeds, and varying amounts of earthworms (0 worms, 1 worm, 2 worms, 5 worms, and 10 worms). I observed the plants for ten days and recorded their height each day.

Results

The results showed the wheat seeds with 5 worms averaged the highest growth, and the wheat seeds with no worms averaged the lowest growth. The no worms average was 7.333 cm., 1 worm average was 8.875 cm., 2 worms average was 7.833 cm., 5 worms average was 12.125 cm., and 10 worms average was 10.875 cm.

Conclusions/Discussion

My conclusion is that the more earthworms in the soil, the higher a wheat plant will grow. However, too many worms is not necessarily better.

Summary Statement

My project was about determining if earthworms affect the height of a wheat plant.

Help Received

My mom bought the potting soil and my friend gave me the wheat seeds.