

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2015 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J1819

Project Title

A Grass' Biomass

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

My objective was to test which type of grass has the largest amount of biomass by using their fresh and dry weight. I believed the Corn plant would have the largest amount of biomass.

Methods/Materials

I planted Oat, Wheat, and Corn plants in 9 different pots labeling each plant and there were 30 seeds per pot. Then I spent three weeks letting the plants grow. I then took the plants out of each pot washed and weighed them. Then I baked the plants and then weighed them again. Then did an equation for each plants percentage change in weight and the equation used the fresh weight and dry weight of each plant.

Results

After finding the percentage change in weight I started to compare each one. The percentage changes in weight for trial one were Oat :90.9%, Wheat :92.3%, and Corn: 70% For trial two the percentage changes were Wheat :91.6%, Oat :66.67, and Corn :75%. The percentage changes in weight for trial three were very different. They were very low percentage changes. The percentages changes in weight for trial three were Wheat :75%, Oat :70%, and Corn :77.78%.

Conclusions/Discussion

After looking at my results I found that Wheat Trial 1 had the largest percentage change in weight. This means that my hypothesis was incorrect. Next time I would do this experiment with different types of plants. Not just grasses. This could tell me more about what types of plants are good suppliers of biomass not just which grass is the best.

Summary Statement

In my project I tested the three plants Corn, Wheat, and Oat to see which has the largest amount of biomass.

Help Received

My mother helped me to put the plants in the oven during the process of measuring the dry weight of each plant.