

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2009 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J0713

Project Title

The pH Problem

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

By adding vinegar to different types of soil, which soil will change in pH level the most?

Methods/Materials

Materials: Digital pH meter, pH calibration liquids, 2.268 kg each of diatomaceous, alkaline, compost and sandy soil, car and driver, (16) 350 mm cups, (5) 49.2 Litre trash bags, (2) shovels, 3.7843 litres of water and Vinegar, (4) clean stirring spoons, (1) 150mm cup, (2) 150mm bowls, (1) 250mm cup, (1) 2050mm cup

Methods: After collecting the materials, I calibrated my pH meter, thin I added 0.1183 L of soil to each 350 mm cup. Next, I added teh same amount of water. To get my base, I took the pH of each cup. Then I mixed 0.4732 L each of vinegar and water together to get a 50% solution. I then added the solution to four (4) new cups. I then took the pH of the cups to get the change. After that, I repeated the process with 25% and 75% solutions. Finally, I recorded and charted the results.

Results

The highest change in pH was the sandy soil, then the alkaline soil, followed by compost and ending with diatomaceous soil.

Conclusions/Discussion

My hypothesis was proven incorrect. The alkaline soil had the highest change. My hypostesis, however, was correct beacuse the soil with the highest alkalinity had the largest change.

Summary Statement

My project is about measuring pH change in different soil types when acid is added.

Help Received

Father drove me to get different soil and Mom helped calculate the results.