CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2015 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Hannah E. Cooper

Project Number

35023

Project Title

The Effects of Alternative Hydration Methods on Plant Germination during a Drought

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The objective of my project is to see if polymers can be an alternative hydration resource when the Central Valley is in a drought.

Methods/Materials

Materials used for this project include polymer balls, lettuce seeds, and water. The polymers will be used to see if the water usage is lower than the regularly watered lettuce seeds.

Results

The use of polymers did germinate the lettuce seeds healthy, but half the size of the lettuce seeds watered with traditional methods, while the regularly watered plants grew healthy with their weekly watering.

Conclusions/Discussion

My conclusion to this project is that the polymers can be used as a method of hydration, but with a defect. The plants will grow half the size because of its stress from not getting enough water. The lettuce plants store the water making the plant grow substancially smaller.

Summary Statement

My project is about finding a way to conserve water while still growing healthy plants.

Help Received

Teacher