

# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2002 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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**Project Number** 

**S1621** 

# **Project Title**

# How Different Plant Hormones Affect Stem Growth in Lima Beans During Germination and Early Stages of Development

### Abstract

# Objectives/Goals

The purpose of the experiment was to measure how different plant hormones affect lima bean stem growth depending upon what stage the young plant is in.

#### Methods/Materials

First I made the plant hormone solutions by following the instuctions of a Flin handbook. Then I soaked 15 lima beans in water over night, and waited for them to germinate. Next I placed three seeds in each jar (I had 5 Jars. Each was for a different hormone, ABA, IAA GA3, Kinetin, and the contolled group.), and only gave them water. I repeated this step 2 more times until the third set of seed had been soaked. At the end of this process I had 3 stages, stage1 were the dormant seed, stage2 were the seeds with radicles, and stage3 were the seed with shoots and foliage leaves. Once all of the seeds had been placed in jars, I gave them .25ml of the hormonal solution each day for 14 days( the contolled group only recieved water.). I recorded the shoot height every day, and I got my average shoot growth per plant by subtracting the total hieght on day 14 by the heigth on day 1.

## **Results**

The stage 1 plants grew on average 5.6152cm. The stage 2 plants grew on average 2.6164. The stage 3 plants grewon average -0.0996cm. In stage 1 the plants to grow the most to the least tall are as follows: ABA, GA3, Kinetin, IAA, and the controll. Instage 2 the plants to grow the most tall to the least tall are as follows: Kinetin, controll, ABA, an the IAA tied with the GA3. The stage 3 plants to grow the most tall to the least tall are as follows: the IAA, Kinetin, control, ABA, and the GA3.

#### **Conclusions/Discussion**

My data supports the idea that the earlier the stage of development a lima bean is in when hormones are first applied to it, the taller it will grow. The data can not support the idea that certain hormones will cause a lima bean plant to grow taller than a different plant.

# **Summary Statement**

The purpose of the experiment was to measure how different plant hormones affect lima bean stem growth depending upon what stage the young plant is in.

## **Help Received**

My parents took me to the library so that I could do research.