

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2007 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J1520

Project Title

The Effect of Different CO₂ Concentrations and High Nutrient Levels on Cyanobacteria Growth

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The objective of my project is to see if different concentrations of CO2 will help or kill the bacteria. This is important when seeing if the cyanobacteria will help absorb C02 from our atmosphere so that we live in a healthy environment.

Methods/Materials

I used 9 containers hold the cyanobacteria. I put an alga grow growth medium for productive growth in each container. 3 containers held room air with no added co2 while I entered 30% and 60% of the capacity of the containers into the containers using a canister of C02 to refil the containers every other day.

Results

The results i got after three weeks of testing was that the 30% containers grew the best with the room air in second and the 60 % last. To find this I used a sensitive eletronic scale that measures to the thousandth of a gram.

Conclusions/Discussion

After seeing the results I came up with a few conclusions to why they grew a certian way. The 60% grew bad for the fact that the amount of CO2 made it to acidic there fore killing some of itself also it grew not as well because the amount of CO2 I entered pushed out an important nutrient in nitrogen. The room air did not have enough CO2 to carry out photosyenthsis so it grew porely as well. Where the 30% was a balence between the two. My hypothesis was partially correct because i had said the 30% would grow the best but i mixed up my therory when I said the 60% would grow better than the room air like previous experiments.

Summary Statement

My project is about how we can use cyanobacteria to help get rid of greenhouse gasses like C02. I tested different CO2 levels on cyanobacteria to see how much it can absorb

Help Received

Mother helped glue paper; Father supplied equipment and helped with experimental setup