

# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2009 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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**Project Number** 

**J2306** 

#### **Project Title**

# **Investigating the Effects of Different Pollutants on Hydroponic Plant Growth**

# Objectives/Goals

### **Abstract**

I wanted to see how different pollutants in the environment will effect the growth of plants.

#### Methods/Materials

Collected pollutants (Exhaust, motor oil, fertilizer, soapy water, pesticide)

Made a solution with water. 1 tablespoon of pollutant with 1/3 cup of water.

Hydroponically grew plants. (radish) 4 cups with different pollutants. 4 seeds per cup

24 cups all together including the control. 96 seeds

Recorded germination rate and growth for 2 weeks.

#### **Results**

Germination rates- Control all seeds germinated 4-5 days

Exhaust - 50% germination 5-6 days

pesicide - 12% germination 7-8 days

motor oil, fertilizer, soapy water - 0% germination

Growth -Control Average 1.69 inches

Exhaust - 1.09 inches

Pesticide - .07 inches

#### **Conclusions/Discussion**

Pollutants do have an effect on plant growth. Some effect the plants more than others.

Motor oil, fertilizer, and soapy water. the solution rate was most likely too strong.

Motor Oil will choke out the plant by blocking stomatas.

We need to be aware of how pollutants are getting into our environment.

## **Summary Statement**

My project will determine how pollutants effect plant growth and germination rates

#### Help Received

Teacher taught scientific method. helped get supplies.