

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2012 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Eris D. Albert-Minckler

Project Number

J0801

Project Title

How Could Global Warming and an Alteration of Wind Speed Affect the World's Deserts?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals Because global warming is changing convection currents, my objective was to discover how a change in affects sand patterns and desert distribution.

Methods/Materials

Four pieces of large graph paper, in a 2 by 2 rectangle, were sprayed with adhesive. Calcium sand was placed four squares from edge of paper and a hairdryer in a vice blew on the sand for five minutes. This was repeated at three speeds. Spread of both fine and course sand was recorded. Wind speed was measured with an anemometer.

Results

The change of wind speed increased the disbursement of sand and the type of pattern created. The lowest speed only moved the smaller particles of sand. The highest setting moved not only the fine particles, but also many of the course particles as well. The medium setting moved much of the fine particles but only some of the course particles. Each setting created its own specific pattern on the paper.

Conclusions/Discussion

My conclusion is that an alteration in wind speed changed the distance and patterns of sand distribution. Even though scientists are still debating whether or not global warming will increase or decrease wind speed, this change will have an effect on the world#s deserts.

Summary Statement

My project focus is how global warming and wind speed affect world#s deserts.

Help Received

Guidance from science teacher; parents assisted experiment; mother assisted typing and construction of display board.