

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2017 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

S1911

Project Title

The Effects of Air Pressure on Pisum sativum Germination

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

Our objective was to investigate how changes in air pressure might affect seed germination in pea plants.

Methods/Materials

potting soil, spray water bottle, pea seeds (Pisum sativum), small containers for planting seeds, air compressor, Culligan water filtration chamber, Vacuum chamber and motor, boxes for normal atmospheric pressure, and a ruler.

Results

Pea seeds were grown under three different types of air pressure: high pressure (50psi), low pressure (-12.3psi), and atmospheric pressure (14.7psi). Seeds germinated under these conditions for a week. Sprout lengths were measured to determine the effects of the different air pressure types. Based on our data, increased air pressure had a negative effect on seed germination.

Conclusions/Discussion

The results in this experiment showed that the seeds that were germinated under normal atmospheric and decreased air pressure had longer sprout lengths than seeds that were germinated under increased air pressure. Seeds germinated under increased pressure had shorter sprout lengths.

Summary Statement

We determined that increased air presure had a negative effect on seed germination.

Help Received

Our science teacher Mrs. Manabe