CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR
2018 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)
Cameryn M. Hoeft

Project Number
J1908

Project Title
How Does HydroGel Affect the Mortality and Yield of Plants?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals
The objective was to test the effects soil additives have on plants.

Methods/Materials
6 tomato plants, 6 pots, fertilizer, HydroGel, grow lights, controlled environment, soil saturation meter. Monitor the effects that soil additives had on moisture level, plant health, and crop yield on tomato plants.

Results
The results of the experiment proved that the plants with the HydroGel and fertilizer retained water and had the most growth in simulated drought conditions.

Conclusions/Discussion
My conclusion is that both HydroGel and fertilizer should be used when growing crops.

Summary Statement
If I include HydroGel into the soil of a plant, the moisture retention and plant yield will increase.

Help Received
Parents helped with providing equipment, Scott Mecom (manager of Creasorb Industries-Stockosorb HydroGel) for providing the HydroGel beads