

CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR 2019 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s) Project Number

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S2105

Project Title

Running a Bioessay: Sodium Toxicity's Effect on Lactuca sativa Germination

Abstract

Objectives

Determine the concentration of sodium that become toxic Lactuca Sativa seed germination.

Methods

Germinated Lactuca Sativa in petri dishes with varying moles of sodium. Allowed germination to occur for 5 days to view effects on growth.

Results

The embryonic root of the germinated seeds were measured. The 0.175 mole concentration inhibited and ultimately stopped germination overall through the process of sodium toxicity and osmotic effect.

Conclusions

A 0.175 mole solution of sodium was ultimately toxic to the Lactuca sativa seeds in the germination process, meaning that sodium toxicity, which requires a lower concentration to take effect, had a lower impact on the inhibition of growth as compared to the osmotic effect which needs a higher concentration to take effect. This means that Lactuca Sativa can still thrive and be cultivated in areas with high sodium levels as it has a high tolerance to sodium toxicity.

Summary Statement

I determined the concentration of sodium needed for sodium toxicity and the osmotic effect to inhibit Lactuca Sativa germination.

Help Received

I did not receive any help as I designed, executed, and collected the data from my experiments on my own.