CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2003 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)
Maya J. Mileck

Project Number
J1616

Project Title
Size vs. Depth: The Relationship Between the Size of a Seed and Its Ideal Planting Depth

Abstract

Objectives/Goals
The Objective of my project was to find if the size of the seed determines the ideal planting depth.

Methods/Materials
Six types of legume seeds were obtained and the weight and recommended planting depth recorded for each. Each type of seed was planted in a pot at five different depths, one seed at each depth. The shallowest being the surface, the deepest being twice the recommended planting depth, and the last three divided evenly between shallowest and deepest. This was repeated two times for a total of three pots for each type of seed. When the plants had grown for 17 days, their heights were measured and recorded. Finally, the entire experiment was repeated for verification.

Results
In general, the smaller seeds preferred shallower planting depths and the larger seeds, deeper planting depths. The larger the seed, the deeper the preferred planting depth.

Conclusions/Discussion
My conclusion is that, in most cases, there is a strong correlation between the size of a seed and its ideal planting depth.

Summary Statement
Size vs. Depth explores the relationship between seed size and ideal planting depth.

Help Received
Friend helped with layout, neighbor helped with photos, teacher helped with grammar, mother helped with typing, father helped with growing.