CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2008 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)
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Project Number
J1227

Project Title
Seal the Deal

Abstract

Objectives/Goals
To determine which water sealant works the best on cedar and redwood.

Methods/Materials
Three different water sealants were tested on untreated cedar and redwood fencing boards. A control sample of each type of wood was also included. Two coats of the sealants were applied to each sample. The samples were than submerged in water for four days, weighing the samples every 12 hours to see how much water had been absorbed.

Results
The wood samples that were coated in Thompson's oil sealant had an average water absortion weight gain of 1.23 oz for the cedar samples and 6.5 oz for the redwood samples. With the Olympic oil sealant, the water absortion weight gain was 1.25 oz for the cedar wood samples and 1.18 oz for the redwood samples. Lastly, the results of the Olympic Water sealant was a water abortion weight gain of 1.2 oz for the cedar samples and 1.42 for the redwood samples. The cedar and redwoood samples were than average to get the net results which showed that the Olympic Oil based sealant worked overall the best for both types wood.

Conclusions/Discussion
The results proved my hypothesis correct. The Olympic oil-based sealant on both the cedar and redwood fence boards worked the best to seal out the water.

Summary Statement
To find out which brand of water sealant protests the new wood the best.

Help Received
Dad helped gather supples , cut the samples and paint the samples because my arm was in a cast.