

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2006 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s) Project Number

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Project Title

Do Roses Get Heartburn?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

I thought up this experiment when I noticed that there were always different experiments dealing with plants being watered with a typical type of liquid (like soda or vinegar) but I personally have never heard of plants being watered with some type of medicine for unusual sicknesses. I was just curious. I believe that it was pretty interesting to water plants with heartburn and an Arthritis pain killer.

Methods/Materials

Materials: 3 mini indoor roses with many buds, all the same color; Water; A bottle of 500mg chewable Antacid tablets; A bottle of 325mg Aspirin; A measuring cup; Thermometer. Procedures:

- 1.) Buy three mini indoor roses of the same color. Cut some buds off so that each plant has approximately the same number of buds. Then decide which plant will be watered with; water, water and aspirin, or water and antacid.
- 2.) place your plants indoor and place a thermometer nearby.
- 3.) Make 3 different mixtures to water the roses with. ¼ cup of water, ¼ cup of water and one dissolved 500mg Antacid tablet, and ¼ cup of water and 2 dissolved 325 Aspirin. Use the spoon to crush the tablets to make it easier to dissolve.
- 4.) Water your roses every other day and write down your observations [changes, growth, difficulties encountered, etc] into your daily journal.
- 5.) Take a picture of each plant individually after every time you water the plants.
- 6.) Make a data table to record how many buds start to bloom, with observations on how the plants feel, smell, or look like.
- 7.) Repeat steps 2-5 for a total of one week, only watering the plants every other day

Results

At the end of one week, the results surprised me. It was clear that the Aspirin killed the plant. It was the most dried up and withered one, with the most buds that had fallen off. But both the water and the water and antacid plants looked similarly grown. Both only looked a little bit withered but just not as much as the Aspirin. Although it looks like both were equal, the Antacid didn#t shed as much buds as the water.

Conclusions/Discussion

I was wondering why antacid did so well on my mini roses. On the bottle itself, it said that it is also a calcium supplement. On another article I found on the internet, it said, "Plants absorb inorganic calcium from the soil and convert it to ionized calcium." It also said that plants make calcium themselves, so I

Summary Statement

My project is about seeing which of three mini roses, would grow the best with either ;water, a mixture of water and antacid, or a mixture of water and aspirin.

Help Received

Dad bought meds and miniroses.