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*How Do Different Nutrients in Water Affect the Growth Rate of a Pea Plant?*

The purpose of this investigation was to see how nutrients affect the growth rate of plants. I hypothesized that if I water plants with different waters, plants watered with compost tea will grow at a faster rate because there are more micronutrients in compost than in fertilizer or tap water. The experiment involved planting peas in clear cups and watering them with different liquids; compost tea, fertilizer water, and tap water. I observed them every day and wrote down my observations. The data collected did support my hypothesis. The total average per day for tap water, which served as my control group, was 1.28 inches per day. This was the lowest average out of the three types of water. The second lowest average was for the fertilizer watered plants with 1.56 inches of growth per day. The highest growth rate was for the compost tea watered plants with a growth rate per day of 1.63 inches per day. These findings lead me to believe that if we use more natural fertilizers like compost tea or compost, then plants will grow faster. This may later lead to helping farmers when growing crops. This also shows us that the use of fertilizer and just plain water when growing plants is not as effective.