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Got Minerals?

The purpose of this investigation was to discover what affect the minerals, calcium, magnesium, and zinc have on the growth of lettuce. I hypothesized that if zinc is dissolved and watered on lettuce leaves, then the lettuce plants will grow more vigorously when compared to calcium and magnesium. The experiment involved planting six lettuce seeds into four pots of soil. The next step was dissolving 250 milligrams of zinc, magnesium, and calcium (vitamin tablet form) into separate two liter bottles of tap water. A separate bottle contained plain tap water. The solutions achieved room temperature overnight while the post were placed on a south-facing window. Plants were watered with 200 milliliters of mineral solution every week for six weeks. Notes were taken on plant growth each week. The data collected did not support my original hypothesis. From week one to week six, the calcium plant grew 4.35 centimeters while the zinc plant crew only 3.80 centimeters. The plant that grew the least was magnesium, which was 2.74 centimeters. The control plant was the second largest growing 4.30 centimeters over a six-week period. These findings lead me to believe that if calcium is dissolved and watered on lettuce plants, then the lettuce plants will grow more vigorously.