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Polyethylene Terephthalate: Evaluating Potential Risk of Plastic Bottles

The purpose of this investigation was to determine whether polyethylene terephthalate (PET) may be leached out of plastic into water after being warmed up in a microwave for ninety seconds. To test the problem, the researchers planted fifty *Capsicum anuum* (jalapeno plants) in three different hydroponic chambers and filled them with the variables. Every three days, the researchers collected data such as the following: leaf count, plant color, plant height, and overall health appearance. The researchers hypothesized that PET would have a general effect on the plants in all categories. The variable in the investigation were the following genres of water: distilled (control), PET bottles at room temperature, and PET bottles that were microwaved. In the results, the researchers perceived that the distilled water, and the water that sat in the PET bottles for five days were quite equivalent. The microwaved bottles, however, were under the averages of the other two variables in the majority of the time. In the conclusion, the researchers determined that there was not enough information to determine the status of the chosen hypothesis. Therefore, the hypothesis constructed by the researchers was inconclusive.