

Neal Hiser

*Effect of Allelochemicals on the Growth of Western Wheat Grass*

The purpose of this experiment was to determine if the allelochemicals that may be produced by Common Tansy have an effect on Western Wheat Grass planted nearby, and if charcoal would negate any effects when added to the soil, should there be an effect at all. I hypothesized that the Common Tansy would negatively affect the germination rate of the Western Wheat Grass, and that if charcoal was added to the soil harboring the Common Tansy, the effect would be negated.

The materials needed for this experiment were eight, gallon sized buckets, eight gallons of soil, 700g of charcoal, four Common Tansy plants, and 160 Western Wheat Grass seeds. The experiment took place in a windowsill, with the plants being grown over a 38 day period.

From my data, I concluded that the Common Tansy has no effect on the grass other than a slight reduction in the grass's height, was fairly insignificant when compared with the control. I conclude that the Common Tansy has hardly any negative effect on the Western Wheat Grass whatsoever.