

Radish Plant Observations

Task:

You have been asked to take part in a study being done by OSU's crop and soil science department. They need help figuring out why radishes will grow well in some soil types, but not others. Using your superior observational abilities and extensive soil knowledge, you need to determine the reasons for the overall health of your radishes. Your participation will help insure plenty of healthy radishes at every salad bar, Good luck!

Step 1

Find and retrieve your group's already planted radishes (If you were not here or can't find your plants than find another group).

Step 2

-Make a detailed labeled drawing for each container (Make sure to include soil sample # on the drawings for each container)

Step 3

A. Observe and record the following information for each container:

- Soil color
- Plant count (number per container)
- Plant height
- Leaf count
- Leaf size (average)
- Plant color
- Distance from the plants to the lights
- Number of lights above plants
- Distance from the soil to the first leaf
- Length of roots
- Number of roots
- Depth of soil
- Density of soil
- Texture of soil

B. Now rate each of the above factors on a scale from 1-10 on the amount of impact you think they had on your plants overall health.

Step 4

(Using computers)

- A. After rating each observation, in a short paragraph explain your thinking for your 3 highest ratings.
- B. Do the same for 3 of your lowest ratings.
- C. Based on your findings what things would you suggest the OSU crop and soil science department do to improve radish plant health? (make sure to include the **type of soil** they should use with your recommendation)