|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  |  | |
|  | **Conclusion** The overall results for this experiment are inconclusive. The fact that the average height increase for the pond water was less than 1/10,000 of an inch is not enough to say that the pond water was any help in making the plants grow. However, it is not even safe to say that distilled water or pond water are better mediums for growing the plants than the pond water, even though the data might slightly suggest it. The distilled water and pond water showed a far greater average in their increase in leaf number over the tap water, but that is not to say the tap water is bad or good. The only advantage that the tap water showed in this data was that its plants produced the same number of fruits at the end of seven weeks as the distilled water, which were the highest of the three. The high levels of phosphorus in the tap and pond water might have had an impact on the number of fruits found in these plants. However, pond water did not produce as many fruits as tap water, or even distilled water, which did not contain phosphorus at all. The pH level wouldn�t matter much though because tomatoes like the range from 6.8 to 7.8. Unfortunately, I wasn�t able to taste the tomatoes because they were not ripe by the end of the seven-week period. I was very surprised that the Nitrogen level of the pond water was not higher because of the fish present which should have provided many nutrients with their decomposition of waste. Perhaps the amount of algae that was present in the water had something to with the final results not being those that were expected. I knew that the algae might use up a lot of the nutrients that the fish living in the water would provide but I did not think that they would use up so much that there wouldn�t be any available for the use of other plants. Overall, my hypothesis could not have been proven either way from this experiment because the results did not show that one type of water which those plants were fed, grew them at a faster or slower rate than another. **Recommendations** There were a few problems with this experiment that could be remedied for the next time. First, the sample size of the tomato plants could be increased for each of the types of water. Perhaps with a larger sample size, then the results could be clearer and prove to be those that were expected. Also, the plants could be fed for a longer period of time. This way, the more data that can be collected, the better chance for getting good results you will have. Another idea is that perhaps the soil tests that I used on the water did not give accurate results. It is possible that since the tests were made mainly for testing soil that they could not anticipate having to test simply water and tell the content. | |
|  | |