# **Observations**

**We found that in our first trial that the initial concentration of MTBE (100 ppm) used was too low. The rate of degradation/loss from the system was so great that no significant amount remained for the duration of the experiment (five days) for the plant to be exposed to the chemical. We revised this in our second experiment by increasing the initial concentration of MTBE to 1,000 ppm. We chose this value as the maximum concentration plants can be exposed to without the chemical concentration being lethal.**

**We observed that over the first couple of days, the broad bean and soybean plants grew relatively normal, just as they had in regular hydroponics solution without MTBE. However, we observed that by the third day, two of the broad bean plants being tested showed signs of illness. Wilted yellowing leaves became more exaggerated with the progression of our experiment. Despite this fact, we observed the soybean plants to do exceptionally well in the MTBE solution. They continued to grow showing no signs of detriment from the chemical.**