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|  | Obviously my hypothesis that radishes receiving extra potassium would experience a faster rate of growth was incorrect. In fact, based on my results, my assumption that vitamins and minerals would stimulate plant growth appears to be incorrect because all the plants fed vitamins and minerals experienced a slower growth rate than the Control group which is considered to be normal rate of growth for radishes. Extra vitamins and minerals appear to impede plant growth rather than increase it. Of the vitamin and mineral groups the radishes responded best to the Magnesium and difference in growth rate between the Magnesium and the Control was less than 0.4 cm/ week, which in reality is not a large difference. In fact, the difference between the fastest growing ( the control) and the slowest ( The Vitamin C ) is only 0.769 cm/week ( about 8mm ). However, while these number do not vary significantly, over time they lead to a large separation. By the end of eight weeks the average height of the Control radishes was 8.05 cm, but the average height of the vitamin C radishes was 2.67 cm. In conclusion, vitamins and minerals impair plant growth rather than help it. If you want the fastest growing radishes they should be feed nothing but tap water, and possibly fertilizers that have been proven to help plant growth.  However, while these are the results of my experiment, I would have to argue that my conclusion is not completely valid because my data is extremely skewed by several factors which I will mention briefly here and then expand upon in my recommendations. The first and most obvious factor that skewed my data was the weather. The earliest radishes should be planted is in April, but due to dead lines my radishes were planted in the end of January. Several of the radishes never sprouted, probably due to the cold weather. However, probably the most important factor was that my sample size was drastically reduced due to predidation by neighbor's cat, and data for some radishes had to thrown out because they were consumed soon after sprouting. |

*This Web Site is Best viewed with 256 or more colors.*

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