

Investigating factors affecting rooting in stem cuttings

Stem cuttings are short lengths of stem used to clone plants artificially.

Many factors affect root formation in stem cuttings:

- medium grown in: water, regular compost, compost with specific nutrients
- number of leaves left on the cutting (affects transpiration)
- use of hormone rooting powder
- temperature
- placing a clear plastic bag over the cutting to decrease transpiration

Any factor from the above list could be used as the **independent variable**. The number of roots formed would be the **dependent variable**. **Control variables** will include, e.g. cuttings from the same species of plant / from the same plant + factors from the list above, which are not being investigated.

