# The Effects of Different Levels of Fertilization on *Brassica rapa* Plants

**Allderdice, Diehl, Thansum**

Presented in an introductory course for non-majors at Bucknell University

## Layout and Appearance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Positive</th>
<th>Negative</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>APPEARANCE</strong>: Is the poster neatly constructed? Do the text and the figures stand out against the background? Are colors and fonts used consistently? Is the text large and legible from 3–6 feet away?</td>
<td>Poster is neatly constructed.</td>
<td>Make font size of body larger.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SECTIONS</strong>: Does each section begin with a descriptive heading? Is there sufficient space between sections? Do the sections naturally flow from top left to bottom right?</td>
<td>Nice use of colored paper for contrast.</td>
<td>Reduce amount of text by using bullets for the main points.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BALANCE</strong>: Is there a nice balance between text and figures? Is there too much text?</td>
<td>Each section has a descriptive heading.</td>
<td>There are a number of grammatical errors and word choice issues (e.g., “ring” instead of “wring”; “effect” instead of “affect”).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PROOFREADING</strong>: Is the text free of typos and grammatical errors?</td>
<td>Good use of space.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Content

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<thead>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TITLE</strong>: Does the title grab your attention?</td>
<td><strong>Hypothesis</strong> is clearly stated in the introduction.</td>
<td><strong>Title</strong> is descriptive, but does not hint at the results.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>AUTHORS</strong>: Are the authors’ names, affiliations, and contact information provided?</td>
<td><strong>Methods</strong> are clearly described.</td>
<td>Center <strong>authors’ names</strong> below the title.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>INTRODUCTION</strong>: Were the objectives clearly stated? Do you understand why this study was done? Did you get enough background information to understand the system? Were any abbreviations defined for the general visitor? Were the hypotheses rational?</td>
<td><strong>Graphs</strong> are easy to understand.</td>
<td>In the <strong>introduction</strong>, do not say: “prove our hypothesis right or wrong.” Instead, say something like “to test our hypothesis” or “to see if our hypothesis is supported or negated.” Use CSE in-text citation format in the <strong>introduction</strong>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>METHODS</strong>: Were the methods described clearly and concisely?</td>
<td>The conclusions are supported by the data.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RESULTS</strong>: Were the graphs easy to understand? Were any graphics distracting?</td>
<td>Potential sources of error are pointed out.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CONCLUSIONS</strong>: Do the conclusions match the data? Are reasonable ideas put forth to explain the observed patterns? Is there a clear connection between the conclusions and the original objectives?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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results, not just the variables on the axes. Where is Figure 3? Do not interpret the results in the results section (e.g. “This data suggests that…”); save interpretations for the conclusion.

There is a discrepancy between the variables you measured (height, # leaves, # buds) and the variable mentioned in the hypothesis (chlorophyll). Therefore, there is no clear connection between the conclusions and the hypothesis.

The **Work cited** section is out of place.