Creation of Greenhouses by Students, Using the Own Installations of the University and Increasing the Growth of Plants

Authors : Espinosa-Garza G., Loera-Hernandez I., Antonyan N.

Abstract : To innovate, it is necessary to perform projects directed towards the search of improvement. The agricultural technique and the design of greenhouses have been studied by undergraduate engineering students from the Tecnológico de Monterrey using the campus areas. The purpose of this project was to incite students to create innovations and help rural populations of the state to solve one of the problems that they are dealing with nowadays. The main objective of the project was to search for an alternative technique that will allow the planting of the "chile piquín" plant, also known as Capsicum annuum, to grow quicker as it germinates. The "chile piquín" is one of the original crops of Mexico and forms the basis of the Mesoamerican cultures' diet since the pre-hispanic era. To fulfill with today's demand, it is required to implement new alternative methods to increase the "chile piquín's" growth. The project lasted one semester with the participation of engineering students from multiple majors. The most important results from this academic experience were that, from the proposed goal, the students could analyze the needs of their town and were capable of introducing new and innovative ideas with the aim of resolving them. In the present article the pedagogic methodologies that allowed to carry out this project will be discussed.

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