

2.2.4 Solution Proposals

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The Beech Grove agriculture department wants to provide access to fresh and nutritious foods to its community members.

Beech Grove is an urban community that is nestled within Indianapolis, IN on the southeast side. According to the Indiana Department of Education, Beech Grove City Schools has a 72% free and reduced lunch rate. Marion County has a 18% food insecurity rate according to the Feeding America website. Indianapolis also ranks as one of the worst in the nation for food deserts according to an article from Indiana Public Media.

We will use grant funding to raise a variety of produce in our raised garden beds and indoor hydroponic systems.

Which variety of lettuce will produce the highest yield hydroponically? This will be determined by conducting growth trials on 4 different varieties of lettuce.

Determination of lettuce varieties provided by an article read by Simply Hydroponics and Organic. Lettuce varieties include

- Green Ice
- Red Fire
- Tango
- Royal Oak Leaf

Trials will be conducted by growing the lettuce using the same light, nutrient, and temperature requirements.

Success of trials will be determined by the number of pounds produced by each lettuce variety.

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