

The teacher had quite a good understanding of the application of the criteria and the standard required. There was very close agreement on the 3 samples awarded middle to low marks. In other cases, the differences in each level with the moderator were never more than 1 per criterion.

EX

Methods were a weak point. They need to be clear enough that someone else could repeat the investigation and show clearly how all variables are controlled or monitored.

Sufficient repeats need to be planned and undertaken to allow for multistep mathematical processing, including statistical tests. If this is insufficient, this will impact on both A and EV.

A

Qualitative data needs to accompany the quantitative data. Diagrams and photos, as well as descriptions of observations, can help.

The data processing was basic and limited due to insufficient data collected. In the 3 /4 range one would expect to see at least mean, standard deviation and an appropriate graph with identified error bars.

There was little or very little evidence of an appreciation of the impact of uncertainties.

EV

A more careful consideration of methodological issues needs to be done. Suggestions need to be made to improve the identified weaknesses of the method that have been discussed, as well as a consideration of extensions.

C

Candidates need to ensure that they follow proper conventions when using scientific names. Decimal places must be consistent within the data collection tables and between data collected and processed. The uncertainty given in the column headers for raw data needs to be consistent with the data collected.

Correct scales need to be used on graph axes which was not the case in the coconut investigation.

Tables should not be split over 2 pages. If this is essential due to space issues, the column headings should be included on the second page as well.

Citations were sometimes missing for facts or figures that were not common knowledge, or graphics and images that were not the candidate's own.

Comments on suitability of the work

Please ensure that the school name, code and individual student codes do not appear on the IA submitted as this is to be anonymous to the moderator.

The topics chosen for individual investigations were suitable for assessment of IB Biology. There were brief notes on each criterion by the teacher.