

## Crop Formation: Lompac, CA 1994

### Laboratory Code: KS-02-92

Material: Common black mustard plants with seeds, *Brassica nigra*

Formation: at Lompac, CA, in August, 1994, discovered by Erik Beckjord and sampled by Ms. Marge Krstien, 24663 Moon Ave., Lomita, CA 90717. See attached, composite diagram prepared from Ms Krstien's notes and the photocopy of the heart shaped formation on the side of a hill.

### Laboratory Results:

Cell wall pit analyses were conducted in sub-epidermal tracheid fibers from tissue taken at the base of the plant where the stem bending was most pronounced. These data along with the 12-day seedling development factor are listed below.

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Cell Pits (micron)</u>				<u>Seedling Development Factor 12 day value</u>
	<u>Ave.</u>	<u>sd</u>	<u>N</u>	<u>%</u>	
Control	1.68	0.51	30	---	1.45
Samp.*1	2.36	0.57	30	+25	2.65
Samp.*2	2.33	0.51	30	+24	0.02
Samp.*3	2.60*	0.45	30	+38	3.75

\*-P<0.05

It should be pointed out here that the seedling development factor was employed because the seed germination was quite variable. It is interesting to note that in sample \*3, in which the maximum cell wall pit expansion occurred, disclosed the most vigorous seedling development. This situation is not unique with this formation.

### Conclusions:

The above data clearly suggest that there were very significant alterations in both the somatic tissue (stems) of the plant and the seed or germinal tissue. The most pronounced changes occurred in plants at the bottom, smaller segment of the heart shaped formation.

W.C. Levengood  
Pinelandia Biophysical Lab.

John A. Burke  
Am-Tech. Laboratory

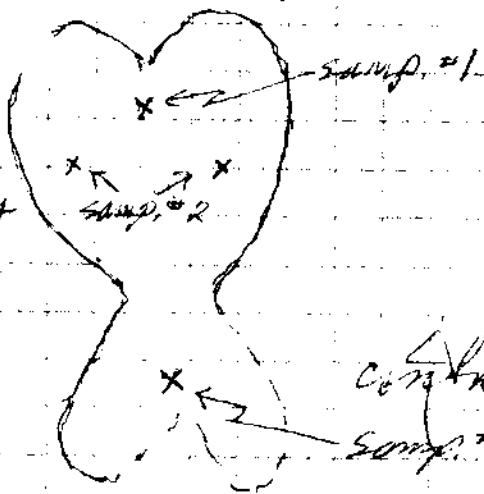
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From: "SC", Andy Thomas-  
Editor, Feb. 1995 p.77  
Photo by Erik Beckjord



ABOVE & BELOW: *Lompoc, Santa Barbara, California, USA. Formed August 1994 in mustard pla  
approximate diameter 35ft. Discovered by Erik Beckjord.*



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