

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2002 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Kelsey L. Capron

Project Number

J1304

Project Title

Natural Antibiotics vs. Pharmaceutical Antibiotics

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

My objective was to learn if natural antibiotics or pharmaceutical antibiotics are more effective on slowing bacteria growth.

Methods/Materials

I cultured bacteria from my mouth, then measured and compared the zones of inhibion of natural and pharmaceutical antibiotics.

I used 5 different natural antibiotics: Usnea, garlic, onion, white sage, and osha.

I used 5 different pharmaceutical antibiotics: Ampicillin, erythromyacin, neomycin, streptomycin, tetracycline, and kanamycin.

Results

Pharmaceutical antibiotics worked more consistantly than natural antibiotics, however, garlic averaged the widest zones of inhibion. Although garlic averaged the widest zone of inhibion (1.58 cm.), ampicillin and tetracycline were very close (1.47 cm.)

Conclusions/Discussion

My conclusion is that pharmaceutical antibiotics are more reliable, therefor more useful.

Summary Statement

I tested natural antibiotics against pharmaceutical antibiotics to find out which is more effective on reducing the growth of bacteria.

Help Received

Father helped make incubator; father gave advice on graphs.