

# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2002 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

Cassandra (Cassie) C. Fausel

**Project Number** 

J1410

# **Project Title**

# Rad Worms: Will Radiation and Different Vitamin Solutions Change Planaria's Regeneration?

# Objectives/Goals

# **Abstract**

My previous experiments showed that vitamins by themselves and in combinations helped Planaria regenerate. Now I am testing whether Radiation and different Vitamin solutions will change the regeneration process. I think that the Radiation will stunt the Planaria#s regeneration and the Vitamins will

protect the Planaria from the damage that the radiation might cause.

### Methods/Materials

I used X-ray radiation and radiated the Planaria using 2 different doses and placed them in four groups of Vitamin solutions: A & C, A & E, C & E and A,C & E. Within each Vitamin group I had 4 controls which contained Planaria that had not been radiated. I also had a No Vitamins group which contained only radiated Planaria. The Planaria were cut into head and tail pieces. Using a log sheet to measure the head and tail pieces, measurements were performed and logged weekly.

#### Results

All Planaria in solutions containing Vitamin C died. Planaria in Vitamin solutions A & E survived radiation. Planaria without Vitamins survived radiation. In the No Vitamin solution, Planaria that were exposed to Radiation grew better than the Control without Radiation. Planaria in Vitamin A & E had regeneration that was similar in the radiation and control groups. Planaria in Vitamin A & E solutions, both control and radiation regenerated more that Planaria in the No Vitamin solutions. Vitamin C was toxic to Planaria and all specimens died the conclusion is Radiation did not affect regeneration. Vitamin solution A & E showed better growth regeneration in the Control and Radiation specimens.

## **Conclusions/Discussion**

Although Radiation did not affect the Planaria, one of the Vitamin combinations, Vitamins A & E showed better growth regeneration in the Control and Radiation than the Control group No Vitamins specimens. This proves that Vitamin A & E can improve Planaria#s regeneration. This concludes that Vitamin A & E can improve Planaria#s regeneration.

# **Summary Statement**

My project is testing to see if Radiation and different vitamin solutions change Planaria#s regeneration.

## Help Received

Dr. Monica Khanna and the staff at Peter Lake Radiation Center, my Dad worked with me throughout the project and answered many questions, 2 friends who assisted with weekly measurements and my Mom who helped with my board.