



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2003 PROJECT SUMMARY**

<b>Name(s)</b> <b>Gregory J. Feaver</b>	<b>Project Number</b> <b>J1908</b>
<b>Project Title</b> <b>Marching Ants</b>	
<b>Objectives/Goals</b> My objective was to learn if differnt colors of chalk would affect the feeding patterns of ants.  My hypothesis was that "Black Chalk" would best deter the ants from visiting the bait source.	
<b>Abstract</b>	
<b>Methods/Materials</b> 1. Locate two different ant hills 2. Place pork rinds in an area near the ants hills so that the ants would find them and start to feed. 3. Once the ants were feeding count the number of visit to the bait source in a given time interval. Record the number and repeat. 4. While the ants were still feeding draw a chalk line around the bait source and count and record the number of visits to the bait source for the same time interval. Repeat this step with 4 different colors of chalk. 5. Repeat Items 3 & 4 four times in order to get adequate data. 6. Repeat 3 through 5 on the other ant hill. 7 Compare the data without chalk to the data with chalk.	
<b>Results</b> Red chalk best detered the the ants from visiting the bait source. Black was next best at deterring the ants, and then green and last was blue. Blue had the least affect on the ants behavior.	
<b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> My conclusion showed that my hypothesis was not correct. My hypothesis was that black chalk would best deter the ants from visiting the bait source. Tests showed that Red did the best job and black was second. Red and Green also did a good job. The real test seemed to be that the pigment in the chalk interfered with the pheromone trails left by the ants in their feeding trails.	
<b>Summary Statement</b> To test the effects of different color chalk lines on the feeding behavior of ants.	
<b>Help Received</b> Mother helped type the report; Dad helped fill out this form and file it	