

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2003 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

January N. Swiderski

Project Number

S1327

Project Title

Don't Sweat It

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The purpose of this experiment is to test if sweat is a natural antibacterial.

Methods/Materials

In order to conduct this project, I collected skin flora samples and grew bacteri, which I then separated into colonies and labeled for identification purposes. I then suspended the bacteria along with .5ml of sweat in test tubes an measured the density of each. After one week's growth, I then measured the density of the tubes again to determine if it had become greater. If in fact the substance did become denser, tis would indicate bacterial growth.

Results

After measuring the density of each test tube before and after one week, I found that the densities of the tubes did become much higher.

Conclusions/Discussion

Due to the results of this experiment, myhypothesis was incorrect. Because the density of the tubes rose a considerable amount, there was obvious bacterial growth within the tubes. This illustrates the fact that the sweat added to the bacteriadid not stop this growth.

Summary Statement

Testing the idea that sweat acts as a natural antibacterial for the skin.

Help Received

Diane Halaska from Lancaster Community Hospital helped collect specimen (qualified microbiologist)