

# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2004 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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**Project Number** 

J0811

## **Project Title**

**Toil With Oil** 

### **Abstract**

# **Objectives/Goals**

I believe that medium textured human hair will adsorb the most oil because it is not too coarse, but not too fine and thin.

#### Methods/Materials

First I collected different types of hair. I then put a consistant weight of hair into a piece of mylon and weighed it. Next I put the hairball into a beaker of oil and water and let it sit rot three minutes. When the time was up, I immediatly took the hairball out of the liquid and calculated the percent of oil adsorbed. Materials; Human hair, donkey hair, horse hair, mule hair, cow hair, goat hair, dog hair, 250 ML beaker, vegetable oil, water, scale, nylons, and calculator.

#### **Results**

All of the hair, excluding meduim textured human hair adsorbed 60% or more of the oil. None of the hair adsorbed any measurable water. Donkey hair adsorbed the most oil, adsorbing 96%, and medium human hair the least, adsorbing 47%.

### **Conclusions/Discussion**

I believe that animal hair adsorbed more oil than human hair because of it's light weight. The lighter it was, the more hair went into a nylon, hence, more surface area, so more oil was adsorbed. As for the results of the human hair, I believe it had to do with texture. I did this project because I am interested in ways to promote a healthy environment.

## **Summary Statement**

My project deals with adsorbing oil with different types of hair to see what kind of hair adsorbs the most.

## Help Received

My dad helped me find a way to do my experiment and payed for equipment, and my science and math teacher gave me guidance and help along the way.