

# CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2010 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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**Project Number** 

J1712

**Project Title** 

Is That Lemon Safe?

#### **Abstract**

## **Objectives/Goals**

Does bacteria grow on a lemon wedge from different restaurants and what can effect the growth?

#### Methods/Materials

- 1. Take Blood Agar plates out of refrigerator and place in the open air
- 2.Keep the lids closed and let the plates come to room temperature for 10 to 15 minutes
- 3. Divide plate into fourths with a white crayon on back of the plates
- 4.Carefully swab the outside rind of the lemon and swipe the swab on one of the quarter sections of the plate
- 5.Use one quarter section of the plate for one sample therefore one plate will have four samples
- 6.Each lemon wedge was tested three times (three quarter sections)
- 7. Place the plate in an insulated container at room temperature to help ensure a stable environment
- 8. Check and record growth every 24 hours for a week
- 9. Repeat for other tests

#### **Results**

47.5% of the samples grew something by the end of the second day. By the end of the week 84.2% of the plates grew something. Almost all of the samples grew different kinds of bacteria and molds.

### Conclusions/Discussion

My conclusion is that the restaurants that did not have tongs and lids grew more. In addition, the way the places washed their lemons had an effect n the amount of growth. Finally, improved restaurant hygienic standards need to be implemented for lemon wedges.

### **Summary Statement**

My project is looking to see if and how much bacteria grow on lemons from different restaurants.

## **Help Received**

Mother hepled cut and retrieve lemons and done under her supervision. My mom is a pharmacist at Hoag Hospital.