

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2011 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J2215

Project Title

What Material Attracts the Most Flies?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

My goal is to find the material that attracts the most flies.

Methods/Materials

In order to determine the attractions of house flies to certain materials potentially used for fly bait development, a portable and efficient test system was developed for the first time. Flies were provided with the choices of various organic matters which can usually be found in urban residential areas, except rotten chicken liver which mainly stands for dead animals.

Results

It was found that rotten fruits attracted the most flies as compared with other materials tested.

Conclusions/Discussion

House flies play an important role in disease transmission by feeding on microbial sources from their habitats. Disease agents could also travel with flies if they get stuck on their limbs and other body parts, so fly control is significantly necessary. House flies like to eat rotten fruits and feces, or anything with decaying matters, carbohydrates, and microbes. In this project, rotten fruits attracted the most flies and good to be used for fly bait.

Summary Statement

This project will identify which material attracts the most flies and potentially good to be used for fly bait in fly control.

Help Received

Air pump and air vacuum system were supplied by Dr. Alec Gerry's lab, Department of Entomology, UC Riverside.