CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2010 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)
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Project Number
J1209

Project Title
Which Worm Is the Best Composter?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals
The goal of my project was to find which of the two most popular composting worms created the most nutrient rich compost. I did this project in the hopes of making it easier for everyone to have a flourishing garden and to make composting more commonplace, even if it is just slightly.

Methods/Materials
For my project, I kept each species of worm in a seperate fourteen liter bucket and fed and watered each worm the same amount of food or water as necessary. I tested the soil of the worms environment for pH, Phosphorus, Nitrogen, and Potash roughly once a week, using a test kit that I bought online. I kept everything as controlled as possible.

Results
It was clear that the Red Wigglers did a better job of enriching the soil, followed by the European Night Crawlers. I also found that the control did surprisingly well, but did not enrich the soil as efficiently as the others. In the end, the Red Wiggler would be the worm of choice when composting.

Conclusions/Discussion
If I were to place a composter in my home, I would recommend using Red Wigglers instead of European Night Crawlers. However it would not be entirley detrimental to use European Night Crawlers, as most worms will create a more nutrient rich compost.

Summary Statement
I choose to find which composting worm created a more nutrient rich compost, the Red Wiggler (Eisenia Fotedia) or the European Night Crawler. (Eisenia Hortensis)

Help Received
Mother and Father helped test. Father helped make graphs.