



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2014 PROJECT SUMMARY**

<b>Name(s)</b> <b>Eliza K. Lyday</b>	<b>Project Number</b> <b>J1915</b>
<b>Project Title</b> <b>Cotton: Got Soil?</b>	
<b>Abstract</b> <b>Objectives/Goals</b> My objective was to determine which type of soil would best promote growing cotton. <b>Methods/Materials</b> I used four very different types of soil (dirt from a dormant cotton field, dirt from a river bottom, Miracle Grow potting soil and vermiculite) and filled 11 growing tubes of each soil (44 in all), making sure to scatter the samples in a tray that held the tubes so as to obtain a random sampling. I then watered and measured daily to compare how the cotton grew in each soil. <b>Results</b> After averaging my data, I came to the conclusion that the soil from the river bottom grew the overall tallest plants. <b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> After reaching my conclusion, I found that my hypothesis was correct. I learned that cotton is not only a fast-growing plant, but it is also a large part of our economy.	
<b>Summary Statement</b> My research project determined which of four very different soils would grow the tallest cotton plants	
<b>Help Received</b> Borrowed growing equipment and consulted with Treanna Pierce at Shafter Cotton Research Station	