



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR  
2002 PROJECT SUMMARY**

<b>Name(s)</b> Marci O. Kirchberg	<b>Project Number</b>  22507
<b>Project Title</b> The Bitter Truth about PTC and Broccoli	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Abstract</b></p> <p><b>Objectives/Goals</b> My objective was to find out if people who can taste PTC strongly would be more likely to dislike broccoli than those who cannot taste it at all.</p> <p><b>Methods/Materials</b> First 122 subjects, between the ages of 10 and 45, were tested with a taste paper called PTC. They were then given surveys inquiring about their sex, ability to taste PTC, and preference in certain vegetables, including broccoli. The surveys were then tallied and the results were determined.</p> <p><b>Results</b> There is no correlation between the ability to taste PTC and the preference of broccoli. Ten percent of non tasters disliked broccoli while 20% of the very strong and strong tasters disliked it. This difference is not significant in supporting or rejecting my hypothesis.</p> <p><b>Conclusions/Discussion</b> My conclusion is that the data is not sufficient to support or reject my hypothesis. I believe that other factors, such as personal taste, may contribute to the preference of broccoli more than the ability to taste PTC. Even though broccoli tastes bitter to many people, it appears that this does not necessarily mean that these people will also taste the bitter PTC.</p>	
<b>Summary Statement</b> My project was designed to discover whether the genetic ability to taste the bitter PTC paper affects individuals preference towards broccoli.	
<b>Help Received</b> teacher helped issue surveys	