

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2002 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

22780

Project Title

Koch's Postulate: Orange Ya' Glad We Have Penicillin?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

The purpose of my science project was to see if different fruit grew the mound using the method designed by Robert Koch. The reason I did this was because I was interested to see if a disease was carried by different hosts, if it would mutate or adapt to better in the environment.

Methods/Materials

agar, toothpicks, cotton swab Materials:6 oranges, 3 lemons, 3 limes, 1 vile of penicillin, pitri dishe bags, twist ties

Procedures:

- 1.Make a wound on two of the oranges
- 2. Using a cotton swab, infect those two oranges with the penicillin mould from the vile. This will be called series 1
- 3. Wait four days and record observations of infected duit
- 4. With a cotton swab, apply some of the mould from the granges in a pitri dish
- 5. Wait two days and observe the pitri dish
- 6.Repeat step two using the mould from the pitri dish with two oranges, two lemons and two limes. This will be called series 2
- 7. Wait two days and observe infected fruit
- 8. Using the fruit you infected two days ago, repeat step four 9. Two days later, observe pitri dish, and compare two first pitri dish

Results

I found that when penicillin grew on different fruits, the colonies looked about the same, but the amoun of mould was the main thing that varied. Nound that when you grew mould on oranges, it grew more mould than limes, and the limes grew more than the lemons. I also experimented of sprayed fruit. The lemons colonies shot up higher than my other truit. Limes grew the second most, and the oranges grew the least.

Conclusions/Discussion

The fruits all grew the mould differently. This told me that the chemical composition must be different | all of these fruits, and that is why the penicillin grew differently.

Almost all of the spray of fruit did not grow mould well. However, the lemon grew the mould better when it was sprayed. The explanation levelld think of for this was that the pesticides reacted with the lemon

Summary Statement

The effects of different environments on a pathogen.

Help Received

Mr, Pembleton, for helping me get the penicillin.