



CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2003 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s) Heather C. Chou	Project Number J1903
Project Title The Effect of Temperature on the Activities of Garden Snails	
Objectives/Goals My objective was to find out the effect of temperature on the activities of garden snails. I believe that snails placed in a normal room temperature will consume more food than the ones placed in a refrigerator.	Abstract The experiment was split into two parts, laboratory observation and outdoor observation. 1) Six snails were obtained and placed into plastic jars with lettuce for food. Three jars were put into a refrigerator at about 4.5°C and three jars were put into a cabinet at room temperature (about 23.5°C). Every other day for one month the lettuce weight, snail weight, and number of feces were recorded. 2) Observations were conducted on my front lawn every 3 days in the evening. The total number of snails present on the lawn was recorded, and the average temperature of the day of observation was also recorded by consulting newspapers.
Results For the laboratory observations, the three snails that were put into a cabinet at room temperature consumed more food, gained more weight, and produced more feces than the snails in the refrigerator. For the outdoor observation, when the temperature was higher, there usually were more snails present on my lawn.	
Conclusions/Discussion Garden snails placed in an environment at a higher temperature will consume more food, gain more weight, and produce more fecal droppings than snails placed in a colder environment. Also, there is correlation between temperature and the number of snails present outdoors # higher temperatures mean more snails present and colder temperatures mean less snails present.	
Summary Statement My project was about the effect of temperature on the activities of garden snails.	
Help Received I thank my advisor, Mr. Lee, for obtaining the snails necessary for my laboratory observations. He also helped me with the analyses. I also thank my mother and father for driving me to the grocery store to buy lettuce.	