

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2005 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J1436

Project Title

Comparing the Effects of Natural Pesticide on Mosquito Larvae

Abstract

Objectives/Goals

My goal is to determine if I can use a safe natural pesticide to help control mosquito population. I will see if there is natural, evironmentally safe, process that can kill mosquito larvae and reduce the chaces of sreading West Nile Virus.

Methods/Materials

I will place 50 mosquito larvaes into 4 different containers. Each container will have 16 cups of water. I will then place the natural pesticide into the water.

1 and a half cups of the following: One catainer will have orange peels

Another container will have camphor leaves added. Another will have banana peels added. And the fourth container will have nothing added (control)

I will then record results to determine how the natural substances effected the larvae. Larvae will also be fed to make sure starvation doesn't play into the results.

Results

Results were very exciting:

Control - all 50 larvae lived

Orange peels - all 50 larvae died within a very short time! (24 hours)

banana peels - not much effect 7 of 50 died

camphor leaves - similar to banana

Conclusions/Discussion

My experiment showed that orange peels will have a direct effect on killing mosquito larvae. This will provide a safe, natural pesticide, that you can use in standing water without the risk of hurting humans or animals. I think this will also help in keeping the spread of West Nile Virus under control.

Summary Statement

I want to see if there is a safe, natural, pesticide that can be used to help control mosquito population.

Help Received

Teacher helped set up project, and acquire mosquito larvae.