



**CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR
2015 PROJECT SUMMARY**

Name(s) Alexa Camacho-Sanchez; Lorena Camacho-Sanchez	Project Number 35582
Project Title Are Vegetables Safe to Eat?	
Abstract Objectives/Goals The objective is to see the effect that pesticides have on plant growth. Methods/Materials 10 organic garlic, 10 conventionally-grown garlic, 10 organic potatoes, 10 conventionally-grown potatoes, and 10 organic avocado seeds and 10 conventionally-grown were bought from a local supermarket, planted, measured and observed during a 9-week period. Results Although the potato plant died within a week, both the garlic and avocado were able to grow. The organic garlic was taller and grew faster than the conventionally-grown garlic, and looked greener and healthier as well. 4 out of the 10 sprouted within the 9-week period reaching a height of 7.04cm, while only 1 conventionally-grown avocado grew, only reaching an average height of .82cm. Conclusions/Discussion Many state that using pesticides on vegetables does not harm the food. With this in mind, we decided to compare organic vs. conventionally-grown vegetables, which are found in the local supermarket and sprayed with pesticides while growing them. If indeed pesticides did no harm to the vegetable, then they would grow at about the same height and rate as an organic plant, a statement not supported by the experiment.	
Summary Statement With many stating that the use of pesticides does not harm vegetables, we decided to compare organic and non-organic vegetables, which, if indeed pesticides do no harm to the plant, should have grown around the same height and rate.	
Help Received Mom bought all the materials needed.	