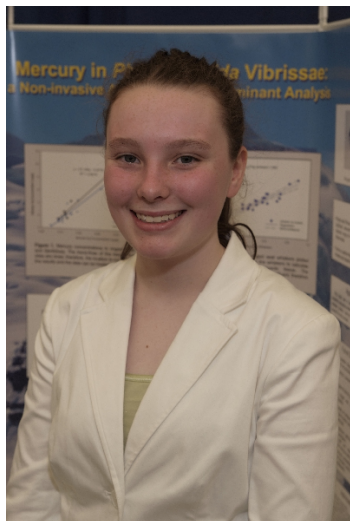


CWSF 2007 - Truro, Nova Scotia



Beth Ferreira

Mercury in Phoca hispida Vibrissae

Division: Engineering & Computing Sciences / None

Category: Intermediate

Region: Manitoba Schools Science Symposium

City: Winnipeg, MB

School: Fort Richmond Collegiate

Abstract: This study analyzed ringed seal (*Phoca hispida*) vibrissae for mercury content because whiskers collection is less invasive. Cold-vapour atomic absorption spectrometry and laser ablation ICP-MS showed a significant positive linear relationship between whiskers and muscle tissue. The amount of mercury in the whiskers is consistent with the expected range for liver or kidney tissue.

Biography

I'm Beth Ferreira and I am 15 years old in grade 10 at Fort Richmond Collegiate in Winnipeg, Manitoba. I enjoy being involved in activities at school with my friends. Some of my favourite ones involve music. I play oboe in wind ensemble and tenor sax in jazz band. As well, I am in grade 10 piano. I love playing water polo on my school's team and I participate in many environmental initiatives at my school such as Envirothon and recycling. At home, I like to read and listen to music. As for my future, I want to study biology. I think science is the best and definitely worth pursuing.

Awards

Value

The University of Western Ontario Scholarship Gold Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Western Ontario	\$2 000
Gold Medal - Earth & Environmental Sciences - Intermediate Sponsor: Petro-Canada	\$1 500
Total	\$3 500

