

CWSF 2009 - Winnipeg, Manitoba



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Antibacterial Properties of a Natural Remedy

Division: Life Sciences / None

Category: Junior

Region: Halifax

City: Halifax, NS

School: St. Agnes School

Abstract: In southern Asia, the stem of a vine known as Calumba Wood (*Coscinium fenestratum*) is boiled in water and resulting tonic is traditionally taken as a natural remedy for colds and flu's. However, the medicinal properties of Calumba Wood has not been scientifically well studied. My experiments using bacterial cultures in yogurt showed that Calumba Wood considerably slows down the growth of the bacteria.

Biography

I am a grade 8 student from Halifax, Nova Scotia. I participate in various sports such as badminton, basketball, volleyball and track-and-field. I like playing and listening to classical and fiddle music. I have played at the Maritime Fiddle Festival and Kiwanis Music Festival two years in a row so far. At school, I play the violin, flute and the clarinet. Based on the nationally written Pythagoras Math test, I was the provincial champion for math in grade six, and have won many writing and art contests including Call to Remembrance Junior poetry first place and Robert Bateman "Get to Know your wild neighbours" art contest Honourable mention last year. I like reading, painting, photography, and outdoor activities such as camping, swimming, berry-picking, hiking, and birdwatching. I am concerned about the environmental damage caused by human activities, and naturally, I am very much interested in wildlife/environmental conservation, and natural remedies.