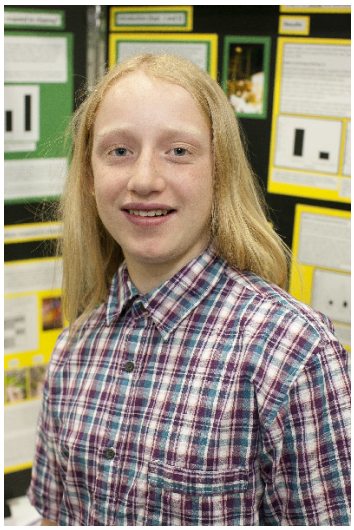
CWSF 2011 - Toronto, Ontario



Kiri Daust

Multi-Criteria Decision Making...In Dandelions!

Challenge: Discovery
Category: Junior
Region: Pacific Northwest
City: Telkwa, BC
School:

Abstract: Dandelions in lawns have shorter flower stems than those in long grass. I investigated why. When I mowed long-stemmed dandelions, new stems grew back shorter; hence they respond directly to mowing. I treated individual plants and/or surrounding vegetation to test three hypotheses for why: decreased energy, decreased competition and increased risk of browsing. Dandelions responded to all three criteria by growing shorter stems.

Biography

I love music and science. I've participated in the Smithers science fair for six years now, and each year it's exciting. CWSF last year was amazing! I think that science should be used to understand nature and the world around us. I play the violin, and love classical music, especially Bach. I also play in fiddle and Klezmer groups. I often use music as a way of expressing myself, and I enjoy improvising and composing. I lived the first eight years of my life in a 300 square foot log cabin on François lake two hours from town, with no running water or electricity. We now have a part time home nearer to town, but we still go to François lake, and I love living in nature. I plan to home school until university, and take either music or science. I would like to be a scientist who works out of home for a career, and also play in an orchestra and some bands. I love animals, and I think that it would be cool to have a farm, but I think that that might be just a little too much to take on.

Awards	Value
Excellence Award - Junior - Silver Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	$700
The University of Western Ontario Scholarship Silver Medallist - $2000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Western Ontario	$2 000
Total	$2 700