

# CWSF 2014 - Windsor, Ontario



## Morgan Lafontaine, Emma Vanderlee

### Urtica Dioica: Effect on Locomotor Function in a Drosophila Model of Chronic...

**Challenge:** Health

**Category:** Senior

**Region:** North Bay

**City:** North Bay, ON

**School:** St. Joseph-Scollard Hall

**Abstract:** In this experiment, chronic oxidative stress in a drosophila model was tested under the influence of the antioxidant, Urtica Dioica. Statistical analysis concluded that a high concentration of Urtica Dioica increases locomotor function in a SOD null fruit fly. Although more testing is needed, there was an indication that Urtica Dioica may increase the lifespan of a SOD null fruit fly.

#### Biographies

Morgan - We both aspire to pursue a career in medicine or in medical research; therefore a health-related project was ideal. We had heard the common controversy over antioxidants and wished to do some testing of our own. We then discovered stinging nettle and picked the herb as our product of experimentation. In terms of future investigations, we are currently continuing to test different concentrations of stinging nettle on diverse species of fruit flies. These findings will demonstrate an optimal dosage amount for the stinging nettle supplement and give hindsight into the fact that this supplement, which is found to increase motor neuron function, m...

Emma - I love many things in life. I like being a nerd because I love science. I do well in school but I am also a big jock. I play rep volleyball, rep basketball, as well as school volleyball and school basketball all through the year. In the summer I play beach volleyball and soccer. Sports are my favourite hobbies. Although on top of all this, my biggest passion is volunteering. I have helped build a school in Africa and Ecuador and this summer I am going to help build another school in India. Due to all these loves my plans for the future is to become a member of Doctors Without Borders. Now about my project. The inspiration came from looking at...

#### Awards

#### Value

Excellence Award - Senior - Silver Medal Sponsor: Youth Science Canada	\$300
Dalhousie University Faculty of Science Entrance Scholarship Senior Silver Medallist - \$2500 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Dalhousie University, Faculty of Science	\$2 500
UBC Science (Vancouver) Entrance Award Senior Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: The University of British Columbia (Vancouver)	\$2 000
University of Ottawa Entrance Scholarship Senior Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Ottawa	\$2 000
Western University Scholarship Silver Medallist - \$2000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$2 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8 800</b>

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