

## CWSF 2014 - Windsor, Ontario



### Deeksha Kundapur

#### Determining the Potency of Various Biological Products Against *F. graminearum*

**Challenge:** Discovery

**Category:** Senior

**Region:** Saskatoon

**City:** Saskatoon, SK

**School:** Walter Murray Collegiate

**Abstract:** The aqueous extracts of turmeric rhizomes (*Curcuma longa*), tamarind pods (*Tamarindus indica*), ginger rhizomes (*Zingiber officinale*), garlic cloves (*Allium sativum*), and honey were tested in order to ascertain their effectiveness in controlling the growth of *Fusarium graminearum*, the causal agent of *Fusarium* head blight. Tests yielded extremely positive results for tamarind and garlic extracts. Novel antifungal compounds are likely responsible for the observed inhibitory activity.

#### Biography

Constantly, I am driven by my curiosity for the cosmos around and within us; science stirs a vehement response from me in every moment it occupies my mind (which is 99% of the time). My most passionate interests lie with biotechnology and astrophysics. It is no wonder then, that I wish to pursue a career in those fields. Besides science, I also enjoy piano, violin, flute, singing, writing, and badminton. I have relatively high marks, with a 98% average at school in an advanced program. I visit India on a yearly-basis and am mesmerized by the diversity of wildlife there, especially compared to good old Saskatchewan. To anyone contemplating whether or not to enter a science-fair, or to anyone "sizing up the competition", we lose ourselves in the moment we are complacent with the world around us. So, as long as you keep asking the "whys" and "hows" and maintain perpetual curiosity, you have won. Perhaps not a medal or certificate, but something much grander: a renewed perspective on knowledge and life itself. Because, truly, this is the highest prize science can ever award anyone.

#### Awards

#### Value

The Manning Innovation Achievement Award Sponsor: Ernest C. Manning Awards Foundation	\$500
Excellence Award - Senior - Bronze Medal Sponsor: Nuclear Waste Management Organization	\$100
University of Ottawa Entrance Scholarship Senior Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: University of Ottawa	\$1 000
Western University Scholarship Bronze Medallist - \$1000 Entrance Scholarship Sponsor: Western University	\$1 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2 600</b>