

CWSF 2016 - Montreal, Quebec



Megan Nicholas

It's All In The Genes

Challenge: Discovery

Category: Junior

Region: Prairie Valley

City: Milestone, SK

School: Milestone School

Abstract: This project was an experiment to see if the shape of a bull's head can determine whether or not that bull is homozygous or heterozygous polled. Analysis of 14 bulls was compared to actual DNA results. The comparison of the results proved this method was not 100% accurate; only 78% was correct leaving this true but not always the most dependable.

Biography

My name is Megan Nicholas and I am a 14 year old, Grade 8 student from Milestone, SK. I enjoy most sports, particularly figure skating and volleyball. I have been a member of the Milestone 4-H Beef Club for eight years. I live on a cattle ranch and enjoy all aspects of farm life. The idea of this project came from a theory that a family friend had and I thought it would be fun to prove/disprove the theory. I will continue to examine head shape of all ages of cattle from different breeds and genders to see if the theory still has truth. The advice I would give to other students would be to choose a topic that you enjoy.