

## CWSF 2019 - Fredericton, New Brunswick



### Samantha Keats

#### Testing of Home Remedies Against Wireworms in Backyard Gardens

**Challenge:** Environment

**Category:** Senior

**Region:** Eastern Newfoundland

**City:** Paradise, NL

**School:** Holy Spirit H.S.

**Abstract:** Backyard and community gardens are becoming popular so people can grow their own crops with little or no pesticides. This is a cheaper option and helps with food security. Wireworms are a pest that can consume crops like potatoes and carrots. This project tests six home remedies and three mild pesticides as treatments to control wireworms. Each test was duplicated and two controls were included.

#### Biography

My name is Sam I attend Holy Spirit Highschool in CBS Newfoundland. I volunteer with Easter seals, and write in my spare time. I plan to pursue nursing after highschool. I chose to do a project on wireworms as my family grows our own food both for sustainability and health reasons. Our recent harvest of potatoes was completely ravaged by wireworms, and upon doing some reading I discovered there is no effective way known to repel these pests. Environment Canada is doing research to help protect the industrial farms from these pests, but backyard gardeners like my family are still without any solution. I hoped to change this with my experiment by finding an effective way to kill, or repel wireworms that is safe, affordable and easily accessible.