



Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

2024 Individual Project Abstract Form

Please print 2 copies of the completed form. Sign both copies, keep 1 for your notebook and submit 1 copy to your Regional Fair Director with your other paperwork.

Title of Project: What is the Best Method for Removing Pollen From Strawberries?

Finalist's Name: Kilah Rojas

School and City: Joes, Colorado

Sponsor's Name: Ms. Linda Fogale

Category: Plant Sciences (PLNT)

Division: Junior (6th - 8th grades)

Abstract (250 words or less):

The purpose of this project was to test which method was the best for removing pollen from a strawberry. The hypothesis was when washed with vinegar, more pollen grains will be removed from the strawberries, because of washing the strawberry thoroughly pollen grains will be removed off of the strawberries. Strawberries that are neither washed nor microwaved will have the greatest amount of pollen on their surface because the strawberries came straight from a garden and might have pollen on them.

This was all tested by using a microscope with tape all around the glass slides. With a 100x view and a 400x view of pollen. Then a camera to easily see and count the pollen so that all the data is correct.

The data collected shows that when viewed at 100x magnification the data indicated that the commercial method worked the best because of the fruit fresh. Then when viewed at the 400x method Vinegar works the best with a calculated percent of 22.6% of pollen that actually showed up as an average.

So in conclusion, the results from this project would be very useful for someone who has an allergy to foods that could be linked to pollen. By knowing how proper washing or treating fruit can remove the pollen would help them avoid allergic reactions. By removing the pollen, they may be able to enjoy the fruit again without having to worry about an allergic reaction.

I hereby certify that the above statements are correct and the information provided in the Abstract is the result of one year's research. I also attest that the above properly reflects my own work.

Finalist's Signature: *Kilah Rojas*

Date: *03/1/24*

In addition, all students must complete the ISEF Student Checklist (1A), Research Plan, Approval Form (1B), and Checklist for Adult Sponsor (1), and any other ISEF forms required for this type of project. See the International Rules and Guidelines for form requirements. Return COPIES of all of these forms to your Regional Fair Director with you Finalist Verification/Permission Form. A signed copy of this form must be included in your notebook.