



## Colorado Science and Engineering Fair

## 2025 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: Fungus Is Among Us

Finalist's Name: Evan Jardine

School and City: Miller Middle School, Durango

Sponsor's Name: Jennifer Jardine

Category: Micro & Molecular Biology

Division: Junior (grades 6 - 8)

Abstract (250 words or less):

My project is about whether pesticides prevent bacterial growth and decomposition on non-organic food compared to organic food. I predicted that the pesticides would stop any growth from happening on the non-organic foods because they are meant to stop other organisms from getting to the food. I tested my theory with two experiments: one including growth in petri dishes and the other one including decomposition in mason jars. I came up with some patterns that I saw. One of them being the diversity and another one being some foods were targeted. I couldn't say whether organic food or nonorganic food grew more but I can say that based on my studies, they grow the same number of bacteria regardless of pesticides being present. My Project was inconclusive, because I cut some food and not others, I needed to have a larger sample size, and there could have been some contamination between the jars.

*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:

Date:

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.**