

ABSTRACT OF EXHIBIT

TAIWAN INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FAIR

CATEGORY: Agricultural sciences

TITLE: Mushroom Cultivation

NAME: Remy Ngamije

COUNTRY: Namibia

Purpose of the research

The first aim of my project is to learn more about mushrooms: their lifecycle, their structures, the nutritional value of mushrooms, the medicinal values of mushrooms as well as the biological importance of mushrooms.

The second aim of my project was to find how mushroom are cultivated in the world and specifically how they are cultivated in Namibia, where climatic conditions are rather harsh for mushrooms. Through interviews, I aimed to understand why mushroom cultivation is not widely practiced in Namibia and what are direct economic advantages of mushroom cultivation in Namibia.

The third aim of my project was to see whether I could find cheap and economic methods of cultivating mushrooms in Namibia, a semi arid country where humidity is so scarce.

Procedures

The first step in my project was to learn as much as I could about mushroom cultivation and mushrooms in general through a literature review of available books. I also interviewed Mrs Nambabi, a professor at Neudamm Agricultural College, about mushrooms and how they are cultivated in Namibia. After this I then spent some time collecting the necessary materials to start the construction of my mushroom farm. I looked for used or recycled materials so as to make my project as cheap as possible.

When this was done I then began to construct my mushroom preparation laboratory as well as the mushroom house and the tools needed to do this.

After this, I started to grow my mushrooms using the means and methods that I had customized to fit my modest project.

Data

My project board has information on mushrooms as well as mushroom cultivation. It also has data showing the different steps that I took in the construction of my mushroom farm. I also have recordings showing the growth patterns of my mushrooms and how long it took to grow them. Pictures of me carrying out my project are included in my display.

Conclusions

It was rewarding for me to physically ascertain that it is possible to grow mushrooms in Namibia using cheap and economic methods and to discover that mushroom market is steadily growing.