The Cannon Fungus

Mead, Jennel

This project explores how temperature affects the reproduction system of the Pilobolus fungus. The accuracy of its launched sporangia changes through altering the temperature that the fungus is subjected to. The results of this project show that when the Pilobolus fungus is subjected to colder temperatures, its accuracy decreases. Since the spores of this fungus have been shown to cause lung worm breakouts in cattle herds (Cornell University), the lower accuracy shows that the possibility of the fungus spreading and causing issues in cattle decrease in colder months.