

Brisha Wakasugi

Junior Division Earth & Space Sciences

Potato Pedology: A Study Of Two Different San Luis Valley Growing Horizons

What are the chemical and physical differences between a Mosca-Hooper and a Blanca-Fort Garland growing horizon. The hypothesis I tried to prove was that the difference in the soils is a direct relationship to the proximity of Sangre de Cristo and the San Juan Ranges. The Hooper soils would be sandy and have finer grain, I believe because they are farther from either range and are located closer to the floor. While the Blanca soils would be coarser due to their proximity to the mountain alluvium. I further believe that the pH will be the same since the sites are closer together. The results also showed that the Blanca horizon had an overall finer grain than the Hooper which surprised me. I was also able to discover through the complete analysis that the Blanca topsoil is loamy sand, the Blanca subsoil and the Hooper topsoil are sandy-loams while the subsoil is classified as a loam.