

February 16, 1951.

Dr. R. S. Benham,
Department of Medicine,
University of Chicago,
Chicago 37, Illinois.

Dear Dr. Benham:

First I must express my appreciation for the friendliness and courtesy which was shown me by your staff and yourself during my visit earlier this week. I am writing now simply to record the favor which I asked of you.

The cultures which we should be interested to test for genetic recombination against E. coli K-12 are:

- a): all lactose-fermenters related to E. coli, including typical Escherichia, Aerobacter, and Klebsiella, and intermediate citrate-utilizers, etc.
- b): delayed, slow or non-fermenters which would be described as Paracolobactrum owing to motility, aerogenicity or inability to classify as Salmonella or Shigella. Please do not include Proteus or other spreaders if possible.

Although any information would be welcomed, I do not wish to impose upon your routine. May I suggest that only the identification number, the source (F, U, or other), and any remarkable properties only of unusual cultures, be mentioned. I hope to check back with you for further details, if any, on any cultures of unusually interesting behavior.

I enclose some more address labels and postage; please let me know on enclosed postcards if these run short, or any other minor communications.

We can, I think, handle as many cultures as you can throw at us, and are looking forward to this opportunity of extending the scope of our investigations.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Associate Professor of Genetics