

11-18-95

Dear Dan -

I very much enjoyed your remarks.

Many things were going on with lab strains, but selection for cross-ability was not one of them. It was pure luck!

The canonical crosses were conducted with the very first auxotrophic mutants available (from Fatum), and then with further derivatives in which I introduced additional markers.

679-680 (the *len*) as we later learned had already lost the F factor.

The parental K-12 from which all the mutants were derived already carries an effective F.

But think about the years of routine culture passage of K-12 from its first isolation in 1922.

Yours,
JL

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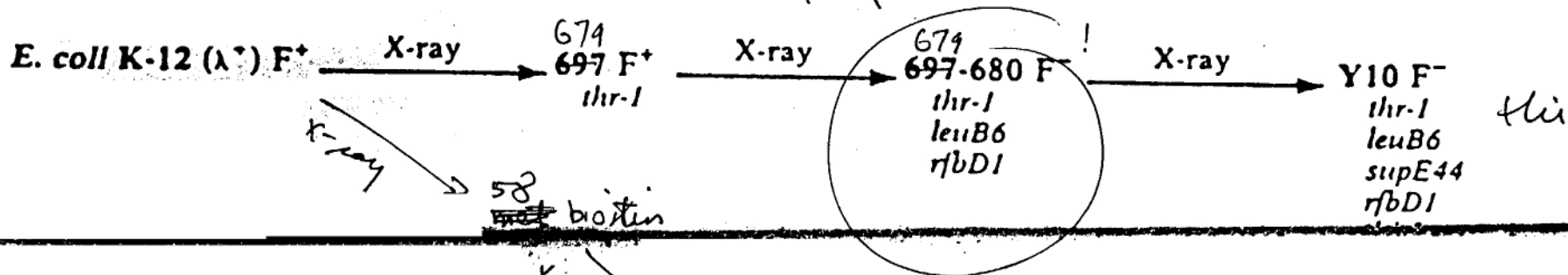
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⊗.. x̄ → vll/20/95

CHART 2. Some derivatives of strain Y10

X-ray → 679-183
thr pro



the original "parents" of first crosses
see Tatum 1945
PNAS 31:215

Mutants were hard to come by in those days. We did not have many to choose from.