

September 16, 1953

Dear Dr. Bergold:

Thank you for the group of reprints on your work on insect viruses, received recently.

I noted several references to the trans-ovarial transmission of such viruses. Has this process been studied in any detail: is it possible to state whether there is a superficial contamination of the eggs, or a more deepseated symbiosis? I did not notice any specific citations to studies of this question. The interest for questions of cytoplasmic inheritance of this matter scarcely needs to be pointed out.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Associate Professor of Genetics

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