

JOHN INNES HORTICULTURAL INSTITUTION

Via: Air Mail

Bayfordbury
Hertford
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Ninth
January
1954

Dear Dr. Lederberg,

I am very keen to spend a period of study and research in the United States after presenting my Ph.D. Thesis in March this year. I have been working with a pathogenic fungus Cladosporium fulvum which has several well defined physiologic races distinguished by reactions on a differential tomato host plant series. The object of the work was breeding for resistance and studying variation in the fungus. I produced some mutants and have sent a note on this for the next number of the Microbial Genetics Bulletin. Unfortunately my other publications will not be out before June and later. However I would be pleased to send you further details of my work.

I want to study methods and techniques in microbial genetics so that I can apply them to some plant pathogens. For instance I would like to try working out bacterial methods with the speridial stage of a smut fungus. I am also interested in physiologic specialisation through heterocaryosis -- to see if it occurs in pathogenic fungi.

I am writing to find out if I could spend some time with you in Madison. I have applied for a Commonwealth Fellowship and also for a National Academy of Sciences F.O.A. Fellowship. I cannot of course estimate my chances of getting one of these and would be pleased to know of any post-doctoral or other research fellowships tenable at Madison. I want to have my wife and child with me during my stay.

I have been on the staff of the Genetics Department here under Dr. D. Lewis since 1951 and I know he would willingly give you an account of me.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Day

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