

C O P Y

JOHN INNES HORTICULTURAL INSTITUTION

Bayfordbury
Hertford
Herts.

Confidential

Your Reference:
RSE.5/WMM/GRP

Seventh
December
1954

Dear Sir

United States
(F.A.O.) Research Fellowships

In reply to your letter about Mr. P.R. Day I have pleasure in giving my opinion of his suitability for a fellowship.

I have known Mr. Day since 1946 when he came to work as a temporary student at this Institution. During the last three years he has been working in the Genetics Department under my supervision. I can, therefore, write about him with some authority.

Firstly, I must say that I have every confidence in Day, and have no reservations whatever to make on his suitability for the fellowship. He is intelligent and hard-working, and has the ability and the tenacity to pursue successfully a difficult research problem. His relations with both his senior and junior colleagues are excellent, and I have no doubt that this fact and his adaptability would make him welcome in any laboratory. He has wide interests and takes great pains to obtain information in all branches of his subject. He has always made the most of any visit to Society meetings or other laboratories, and I am sure that he would obtain the maximum benefit from a visit to the United States.

His work has been on the Genetics of resistance to Cladosporium fulvum in the Tomato; a problem which involves the origin and nature of physiological strains of the parasite. This work has given him not only the technical experience of handling fungi in pure culture, techniques of inducing and selecting mutants in microorganisms, and the breeding and inoculation of plants, but has also given him the experience

Dr. D.C. Martin

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to carry out research with a minimum of supervision.

I am certain that an expansion of the Genetics of physiological specialisation and parasitism in general will yield valuable results. The experience Day would obtain in American Laboratories, where the Genetics of microorganisms and parasitism have been developed, would equip him for further research.

Mr. Day has not published much on his work yet but he has read two invited papers to Scientific Societies and is presenting a Thesis for the degree of Ph.D. in March, 1954.

I know that, if successful, he intends to take his wife and child : this will be an asset for Mrs. Day, who has a university degree, is extremely resourceful and would be able to augment the value of the fellowship.

Yours faithfully,

Sgn. D. Lewis, Ph.D., D.Sc.
Head of the Genetics Department

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