

KIMBER FARMS, INC.  
NILES, CALIFORNIA

November 1, 1954

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

Your cooperation as an active investigator in the field of genetics is earnestly requested in connection with a matter in which I hope you will be genuinely interested. It is to assist us in assembling a list of the names of those workers in the field of heredity whom you feel are worthy of special recognition.

This company is sponsoring an award to be known as "The Kimber Genetics Award," consisting of a 10k. three inch gold medal and ten thousand dollars. It will be offered for the first time in 1955, and at five year intervals thereafter until such time as it may be offered more frequently.

The National Academy of Sciences has agreed to administer the Award, will appoint the jury that will select the recipient, and will be in charge of all administrative details.


The face of the medal will bear the likenesses of Darwin, Mendel, and Bateson, done by one of the foremost living sculptors. The reverse side of the medal will have an alphabetical list of eminent workers in the field of heredity, both living and dead. The names will be arranged in several concentric circles around the periphery, simulating a sort of wreath. This will have the effect of bringing many famous workers together in a joint tribute, as it were, to the recipient of the award, whose name will be engraved in the center of the medal, with a brief and appropriate citation.

Our immediate problem is to determine what names might well be included in this "wreath." It seems to the undersigned that a poll of all members of the Genetics Society of America is one good way in which to assemble such a list.

As several months will be required to fabricate the medal, which we hope will be ready for presentation in the spring of 1955, we will greatly appreciate your reply as soon as possible. A self-addressed stamped envelope is enclosed for your convenience. I should also be pleased to receive any other comments or suggestions you may have in addition to your list of names.

Very sincerely yours,

KIMBER FARMS, INC.



John E. Kimber, *President*

# QUESTIONNAIRE

## TO MEMBERS OF THE GENETICS SOCIETY OF AMERICA:

Please list below the names you recommend to be included on the reverse side of the gold medal to be prepared for the Kimber Genetics Award. Please omit the names of Darwin, Mendel, and Bateson because their names and likenesses will appear on the front of the medal.

Each individual is probably best qualified to select names within his own field, but we hope you will also consider the whole broad field of genetics, including its practical application, and from it will recommend the twenty, or more, men and women you believe to be most deserving of this recognition. Contributions in animal and plant genetics, in both laboratory and economic species, in genetic theory and teaching, all merit consideration in assembling this list of names.

Please list the individuals in the approximate order of your evaluation of their contributions, the most outstanding first.

Our sincere thanks for your kind cooperation.

**I would omit the name of any living person! The sequence is unordered.**

**KIMBER FARMS, INC.  
NILES, CALIFORNIA**

1	<b>A. Blakeslee</b>	16
2	<b>L. J. Stadler</b>	17
3	<b>Correns</b>	18
4	<b>de Vries</b>	19
5	<b>Tschermak (still living?)</b>	20
6	<b>Morgan</b>	Any Additional Names
7	<b>Bridges</b>	
8	<b>E. B. Wilson</b>	
9	<b>Shull</b>	
10	<b>Cuénot</b>	
11	<b>Weissmann</b>	
12		
13		
14		
15		

If any other names are proposed, please use reverse side of the sheet.