## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH ADMINISTRATION

BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY, SOILS, AND AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

DIVISION OF CEREAL CROPS AND DISEASES BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND

December 31, 1951

Dr. Joshua Lederburg Department of Genetics College of Agriculture University of Wisconsin Madison, Wisconsin

Dear Dr. Lederburg:

I understand that you have developed a method of preserving bacteria on the granules of a silica jel. Can you send me a reprint or give me the citation dealing with this method?

I am enclosing a reprint in which is described a method of preserving plant viruses in situ by means of chemical dehydration at cool temperatures. I have found that the use of anhydron (anhydrous magnesium perchlorate) in the storage bottles extends the period of viability of the viruses that have been tested.

Thanking you for any information you may be in a position to give, I am,

Sincerely yours,

H. H. McKinney

Senior Pathologist