

September 6, 1961

Millipore Filter Corporation  
Bedford  
Massachusetts

Gentlemen:

I hope that this letter may strike the fortunate note that you have already had occasion to survey the literature on the cultivation of bacteria on cellophane or other plastic films other than millipore membranes. We have been doing some work lately where the results of a literature search in this area would be most useful to us and I am writing to you to ask whether you could offer the courtesy that might save us many man hours of work. We are, of course, indebted to you for many past favors and for furnishing bibliographies on your own materials.

It may be a point of some interest to you that the extent of development of bacterial colonies on millipore membrane filters can be greatly stimulated by impregnating the filters with agar before laying the filters on the nutrient base. I would assume that this effect is based on the superior water-'buffering' properties of the agar gel as compared to the membrane material. Whether this finding would be of any use in the more typical application of the filters I am not sure although I can visualize that it would not be too difficult to conduct this impregnation either after the tested samples have been filtered through the clean membranes.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics

P.S. Can you furnish type WH microweb filters in circles of diameter 80-83 mm? (for use in plastic petri dishes). If so, please quote for quantities of 10 and 100.

Millipore Filter Corp.