

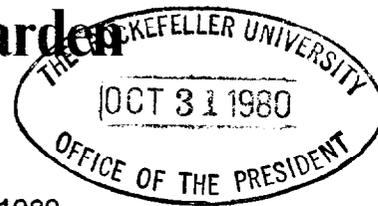


# The New York Botanical Garden

Archives

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27 October 1980

Dr. Joshua Lederberg  
Rockefeller University  
New York, NY 10021

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

In response to your note to Dr. Hester of 6 October, in which you asked the dates on which B. O. Dodge supplied *Neurospora* cultures to G. W. Beadle and E. L. Tatum, I retrieved the following information from Dodge's correspondence with Beadle in the Bernard Ogilvie Dodge Papers:

On 27 February 1941 Beadle wrote Dodge about his plans to experiment with *Neurospora* cultures supplied by C. C. Lindegren. Beadle also asked if Dodge could supply cultures of "wild" *Neurospora*.

On 51 March 1941 Dodge replied that he could supply *Neurospora* cultures collected from breadboxes in the Bronx but that he could not supply any other recently collected "wild" types. Dodge suggested that the Agricultural Experiment Stations in Puerto Rico or Baton Rouge could supply cultures collected from sugar cane fields, as could Dr. Stephen Brunner of Santiago de los Vegas, Cuba. Dodge further suggested bakeries or kitchen breadboxes as a source of *Neurospora sitophila*.

On 13 March 1941 Beadle wrote Dodge that he had obtained cultures of *Neurospora crassa*, *Neurospora sitophila*, and *Neurospora tetrasperma*, "many of which originally came from you", from C. C. Lindegren and from W. S. Malloch. Beadle then asked that Dodge send additional cultures.

On 19 March 1941 Dodge wrote that "in a day or two" he would send Beadle a wild sample of *Neurospora* recently collected in Bermuda.

The Dodge Papers contain no additional correspondence with Beadle until August 11, 1941 when Beadle again requests cultures from Dodge. On 15 August Dodge replied that he would send ascospores of *Neurospora crassa* if he would find some. He also suggested that Beadle should contact Dr. C. W. Edgerton at the Agricultural Experiment Station in Baton Rouge for cultures for *Neurospora*. In his reply of 24 August 1941 Beadle noted that he would write Edgerton for cultures of wild *Neurospora*.

The balance of the existing Beadle-Dodge correspondence at NYBG apparently consists of 35 letters written between 22 November 1941 and 31 March 1945. Some of this correspondence deals with the exchange of cultures of *Neurospora*. For your reference use, I am enclosing a copy of the entire Beadle-Dodge correspondence. I also enclose copies of the much briefer correspondences between William J. Robbins and Beadle and Tatum, from the William Jacob Robbins Papers.

If I find any additional material pertaining to this question, I will write you. If you have any additional questions, feel free to call or mail me a letter.

Sincerely,

*Steven P. Johnson*  
Steven P. Johnson,  
Archivist

Enclosures: Beadle-Dodge correspondence  
Beadle-Robbins correspondence  
Tatum-Robbins correspondence