

June 28, 1948.

Dr. Wilson S. Stone,
Dept. Zoology,
University of Texas,
Austin, Texas.

Dear Dr. Stone,

A culture of Y-37 ($P^{-}lac_1-V_1^F$) has just been sent off to you. Fortunately, we were able to recover and repurify it. It should behave all right now. If now, a few single-colony streakings on lactose FMB agar will certainly do the trick.

This culture has the interesting faculty of being "mitabile"- the classical instance of bacterial mutation, namely lactose-positive papillae forming on Lac-FMB agar. Other recurrences of lac_1^{-} have been found which differ in their mutability, and my wife is studying the genetic basis of these differences in mutation rate. So far, they seem to represent aseries of alleles, one might almost say iso-alleles. However, some of the stocks throw off papillae which are not reverse-mutations, but "suppressor" mutations, i.e. yield lac_1^{-} which when crossed with the wild type lac_1^{+} give lac_1^{-} recombinants. I thought you might be interested to observe this phenomenon on Lac FMB.

Best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg.