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GENEVA, N. Y.

July 5, 1949

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
Department of Genetics
University of Wisconsin
College of Agriculture
Madison 6, Wis.

Dear Dr. Lederberg:

I have your letter of the 1st about eosin, NE-23, and its failure to behave in the EMB agar.

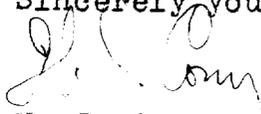
We do not test eosin in this medium, for the simple reason that to give best results a batch of it has to be combined with the right batch of methylene blue; unless properly paired with the correct lot of the latter dye, you cannot expect optimum results. That may possibly be your trouble.

On the other hand, NE-23 is apparently an abnormal batch. It was passed by our regular collaborators, and hence certified; but after the batch had been completely sold out, complaints began to come in about it either to the manufacturer or to us. We have no idea what the trouble is, but we realize that something must be the matter with it; so do the manufacturers. Accordingly they always stand ready to replace lots of this batch returned to them; and I know you will receive courteous treatment from them if you return your sample for replacement to:

Pharmaceutical Department
National Aniline Division
Allied Chemical and Dye Corporation
40 Rector Street
New York 6, New York

You might mention that you are doing so on my instructions. I am not certain their current batch would be better in the EMB agar, however, for the reasons given in the first paragraph of this letter.

Sincerely yours,



H. J. Conn

HJC:bs