

MAR 23 1978

*B. O. Dodge*

May 2, 1946

Dr. Edward L. Tatum  
Osborn Botanical Laboratory  
Yale University  
New Haven, Connecticut

Dear Doctor Tatum:

I have just received your recent letter in which you outline some work which you are planning to carry on with Neurospora.

As to the technique of obtaining quantities of microspores from wild type races of N. crassa, I am sure that almost any race of Neurospora can be made to produce them by adding a small amount of water to the culture at the right time. I have not done anything along this line for 10 or 15 years, except that I often find that a culture has developed enormous numbers of microspores after we have applied a water suspension of moniloid conidia as a means of demonstrating artificial "spermatization." Hollander did a lot of work irradiating microspores, I understand. Miss Zimmer, who assisted him, originally worked with me some months as a volunteer. I think she probably showed them how to produce the microspores. I am sure that the races of N. crassa that produce moniloid conidia will produce microspores. I did not have non-conidial races of that species in 1932 when I clearly demonstrated the production of these bodies by the wild type races of N. crassa.

You ask for some of my races but you did not state whether you want races of N. crassa or not. I have only two races of N. crassa, and these are Lindgren's "plus" and "minus" races. They are direct descendants of races I originally gave him. If you want these I can send them to you. I do have a number of conidial races of N. sitophila and several sets of races of N. tetrasperma, some from Australia, British Guiana, the Canal Zone, etc.

I am very busy at this season of the year with my regular job as plant pathologist so it is sometimes difficult to get time to do any work on Neurospora. Give me time and I write you again later.

Yours sincerely,

B. O. Dodge  
pathologist

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