Dear Sue-

In 1957, on Heron Island, I was cautioned that the skin lesions from coral were especially vulnerable to infections - which seemed to imply that a pathogenic staph was a commoner with coral!

Recently we have been interested in the Beneckea group (= halophila vibrio) for these reasons; which led me to pen an article in Lancet (11/30/74) p.1283. In them this seems to be a clue to the coral problem. I thought this was worth passing on to you; in them for the possible interest of your colleagues of the Commonwealth Science Board. Or at Brisbane if any of them were still concerned about such infections.

If you learn that scale strains are widely prevalent on coral I would be grateful to have a few sample cultures.