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Helsinki January 13th, 1965

Prof. J. Lederberg
Genetics Department
Stanford University Medical School
Pasteur Drive
Palo Alto, California
U S A

Dear Josh,

This is just a manuscript of some of the work I did in the Lister Institute last year. The Salmonella abony F+ & Hfr system is surprisingly good giving reasonable recombination even between Salmonella "species" and between Salmonella and coli! I do not think that this kind of work on O-antigens could have been done with other methods in Salmonella; I know that colicins give too little recombination under the circumstances, and the typhimurium Hfr's of Zinder and Demerec are too weak as well.

In some other crosses we found a novel type of O-antigens in Salmonella, which seems to be a true between-form of Smooth and Rough. The proposition is that these semirough strains have only one repeat unit on their sidechains, hence much less specific reactivity and impaired stability in saline. There should be a paper together with Nikaïdo and others in the January PNAS about this.

Olli and I received an NIH grant for three years, which we are very happy about. A new laboratory for our institute is being built here, where we can (probably) move in next year, and this makes the funds even more useful. We suspect that you have been asked about our projects, and wish to thank you sincerely.

Best regards to Esther,

yours

Helena

P:Helena Mäkelä