

September 15, 1949.

Dr. Bernard D. Davis,
Tbc. Research Laboratory,
411 E. 69 Street,
New York 21, N.Y.

Dear Bernie:

To date, I hadn't heard anything from Beadle concerning the proposed course. I haven't given it any thought, and will have to wait until I have had time to think about it, and have heard from Beadle before I can give you any considered reactions. Offhand, I would think that Corona Del Mar would be much the better bet, in August.

As I thought had been implied, the table of suggested concentrations is almost completely hypothetical, calculated mostly from the requirements of other organisms, with a large safety margin included. You may be able to revise some of the items on a more empirical basis if you have studied the quantitative requirements of the vitamin mutants, and would appreciate your comments. We have not looked for or obtained any B-12 mutants.

We will send you a couple of our prolineless mutants which were refractory to penicillin, very shortly. The observations were rather casual, but were repeated on 5 different strains, so there might be something in it. You will remember that our techniques differed a little, mostly in respect to the length of the penicillin treatment. 24 hours is too long for most of the bugs we have used, but the Waksman coli strain would appear to be somewhat more resistant than most. All of this might have a bearing on possible discrepancies in our results.

With best regards

Sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg