

Animal Breeding Research Department

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH
KING'S BUILDINGS
WEST MAINS ROAD
TEL. 43867

DIRECTOR:
PROF. F. A. E. CREW, M.D., D.Sc., Ph.D.
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY
A. D. MCHANAN SMITH, M.A., M.B.A., B.Sc.
A. CALDER, Ph.D., D.Sc., D.B.A.

4th February, 1930.

Dear Dr. Fisher,

Many thanks for your letter which is distinctly encouraging. I and Miss Robinson, who has done the back breaking part of the work, were somewhat despondent. The fact that the paternal half sister (same sire, dams not sisters) gave a correlation of .1871 as compared to the maternal half sisters (Sires not brothers, same dam) gave .2523, appears to substantiate the contention that certain of the factors are inherited in a sex-linked manner.

I would not for a moment suggest that all the factors for milk yield are inherited in a sex-linked manner, that would be almost ridiculous because milk yield must be covered by many genetical factors since it is conditioned not merely by reproductive matters such as the milk glands, but also by somatic characters such as size, heart growth, etc.

At the most I would not expect a greater than 50 per cent effect to result from factors on any single chromosome.

With many thanks and apologies for being such a pest.

Yours sincerely,

A. D. Buchanan Pitt

Dr. R. A. Fisher,
Rothamsted Experimental Station,
Harpenden, Herts.



*
— = Sex chromosome line of inheritance
— = autosome