

7 May 1943

My dear Henry,

You might like to see the enclosed graph, which is, I fear, very rough, intended to show the path of natural progress, assuming equal viability and fertility both in pollen and seed, which a homostyle visible both as heterozygote and homozygote would make. The transverse lines are generations, e.g. the data from the northwestern corner of the Wood, 1942 and 1943, show a change almost exactly equivalent to what one would expect of one generation at that level of frequency, though the southwestern counts show a retrogressive movement of a little less than a generation. I suppose a generation must be longer than one year, though conceivably it might not be longer than two.

The points I have plotted are all based on tolerably large counts, most of them (except perhaps Laurel and Fir Coverts) definitely homogeneous. In that case I have put in separately the dense population round the pond and the line of hedge which we worked rather carefully from the corner of Laurel Covert.

It is obvious that the points are all somewhat to the left of the line, i.e. show fewer thrums than one would expect, all the way from top to bottom. It looks ^{also} as though change were being

arrested at about 80-85% homostyle, and that thrums do not easily become quite extinct. I shall try later a more ambitious method of plotting, but I do not suppose it will show any general feature beyond what this method suggests. Don't trouble to send this back if it is equally convenient to bring it with you when you next come.

What an extraordinary patch of primroses it is you have found ! It is very difficult to imagine just how it can have come into existence. Even seed or pollen from cultivated varieties would not very easily supply forces fit to establish themselves. I am so glad that you had this bit of luck.

Yours sincerely,

H. A. FISHER