

20 November 1945

Dear Medawar,

Thanks for your letter. I have read your plan with interest and, so far as I can judge, it is not too optimistic.

I have during the last year set up foundation stock for about twenty inbred lines of a new type in that they involve constant segregation of chosen factors. This will provide particularly useful material later, indeed in two or three years - but just now I only have material from one closely inbred line, which could as need be supplemented by somewhat outbred material from another, the central stock of which was lost last Summer. This has been carried on using males only, and when the pairs breed I shall have material backcrossed five times, and therefore expected to contain only about 3% of foreign <sup>germ-plasm</sup>. This seems just worth trying as a second string, if you cannot lay hands on a second well inbred line from someone else.

Yours sincerely,