

JOHN INNES HORTICULTURAL INSTITUTION
MOSTYN ROAD, MERTON PARK, LONDON, S.W.19

From the Director, DR C. D. DARLINGTON. LIBerty 3645

14th March 1942.

Dear Professor,

Please excuse my letter being
handwritten. My typewriter is away for cleaning.

I must thank you for reading
my Nature article. I take it that you
found no outrageous travesties of genetical
history. I was very amused by Bateson
wishing to have the rule "one organ -
one locus", ~~that~~ ^{as} you point out in your letter.
It is quite in line with his other
contributions to genetical theory.

I have gone through your sea ratio
discussion, though I had not ~~do~~ repeated
all the algebra. Hence, apart from one point, I
cannot comment on that. The one point is that
in the table at the top of page 4, I expected
to find the value of progeny from female parents

of the kind $X'X$ as well as the XX and $X'Y$ kinds
you give. I was not clear why they were omitted.

The conclusion that the depression of effective
fertility of X' males is achieved by sexual
selection gets now Huxford's difficulties
beautifully. It would seem that sexual
selection of this kind is of much greater
importance in animals than is generally
realized, as it also allows of adjustment
of the inbreeding - outbreeding system in a way
that we dreamed, I believe, when I last
saw you.

As to facts about sex-ratio, I can
supply some of Darlington's own also. I enclose
a manuscript (Darlington asks you to send
return it when convenient as it is his only
copy) by Darlington & Volzhansky. It is first
published, minus the last paragraph which
Volzhansky could not swallow. The letter
from Volzhansky gives some information too, including
the implicit promise of more data in the nearish

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2.

fruit.

I had also worked over Skarlewand & Dolybansky 1936 (Genetics 21: 473) who give some figures. Both p & k vary from Race A to Race B; & Race A ♂♂ give a [different] ♀♀ from that of the corresponding ♀♀. The ~~limit~~ ~~point~~ is that the data within races are heterogeneous for various reasons. Still the figures are as follows, but what they are worth.

			X chrs. tested
p	D. pseudotschumana	Race A ♂♂	0.090
		♀♀	0.149
		Race B ♀♀	0.176
D. obscura.		♂♂	0.000
		♀♀	0.048
D. affinis		♂♂	0.073
		♀♀	0.067
k	D. pseudotschumana	Race A	0.016320
		--- B	0.082076
			6850
			8609

I hope that the figures will help, just
from the 9 p were a shade to high, or at
least R was, even for rule B.

Carters cannot help us with the
Summer meeting of the Geneetical Society. I hope
will see Hatten of East Malling in
April but I will ask him about
prospects at East Malling then.

I got no reply from Huxley
about seeing round the Zoo on 16th April,
but I read in the newspaper today
that he is in America still, & is
to be removed from his position at the Zoo,
perhaps the lack of reply is not
mysterious.

Yours sincerely

H. Huxley