

August 5, 1941

Dear Riddell,

I have just been looking at your enclosure on irie colour. On the top sheet there is a very slight point I have not followed, namely what is the difference between the 12 cases of blue-grey and the one case of grey-blue.

When you say "blue on grey with pigment", I suppose the pigment always appears as chocolate, tan, yellow or green. Presumably there is no real green pigment in the iris, but the green appearance might be due to diffuse yellow on a blue background. I should very much like to know if you agree with this, as your greens - 93 in 500 - are evidently rather common. I have not yet managed to relate the summary page to the more detailed pages that follow. I take it the main groupings are with a view to comparison with a single factor necessary for the development of any pigment whatever, in which case the middle group presumably contains most of heterozygotes, with a few additional homozygotes.

Here is another puzzle, the answer to which may help me to understand what you have done: you have 16 green with diffuse tan, but, in addition, one with green specks and diffuse tan and one with ~~diffuse~~ tan specks and diffuse tan. Does the diffuse colour occupy largish visible patches rather than specks?

Ultimately I hope you will publish a big paper in the Annals. I do not want to hurry you, but it will be worth bearing such a project in mind, if it appeals to you, while the material is under consideration.

Yours sincerely,