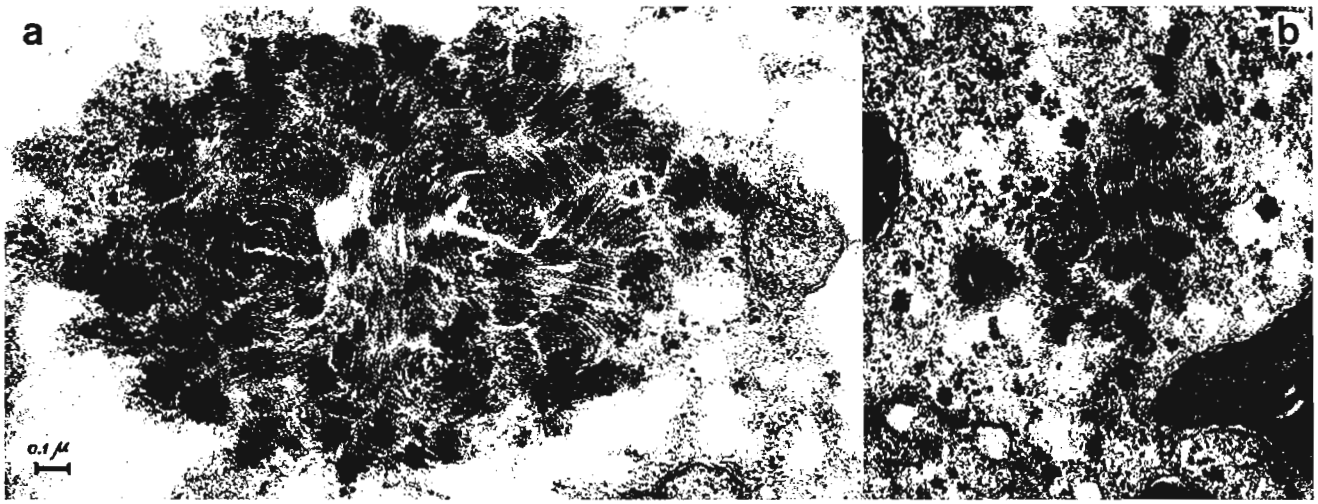
During the summer of 1970 the new allele was detected also in other D. melanogaster populations of the Venetian region in N.E. Italy; these are being sampled for esterases. The gene frequency observed for Est 6 V is very low, being around 0.02 or 0.03. Work is also in progress to characterize the new esterase form with different substrates and inhibitors.

References: Wright, T.R.F, 1963 Genetics 48: 787; Wright, T.R.F. and R. MacIntyre, 1965 J.E. Mitchell Sci. Soc., 81: 1.

Van Breugel, F.M.A. and J. van Zuylen
Genetisch Laboratorium, Leiden, The Netherlands. Fibrillar spherulites in the Malpighian tubules of larvae of Drosophila hydei.

Electron microscopical observations on proximal cells after GDA and O_sO_4 fixation, of the anterior Malpighian tubules of late third instar larvae, revealed the presence of typical structures (Fig. a,b) resembling the fibrillar spherulites or 'stromacentre' of Avena chloroplasts (Gunning, 1965; Gunning et al. 1968; Steer et al. 1970). It has been suggested for the Avena structures that the fibrils have a proteinaceous nature and probably consist of linear aggregates of ribulose diphosphate carboxylase (Gunning et al. 1968). We found the spherulites in wildtype (Fig. 1a) as well as in



white (Fig. 1b) and white-mottled larvae. (Photographs were made with technical assistance of the division of Cell Biology).

References: Gunning, B.E.S., 1965 J. Cell Biol. 24: 79-91; Gunning, B.E.S., M.W. Steer and M.P. Cochrane, 1968 J. Cell Sci. 3: 445-456; Steer, M.W., J.H.W. Holden and B.E.S. Gunning, 1970 Canad. J. Gen. and Cy. 12: 21-27.

Ertha, D. and S.E. Moyer. Northeastern University, Boston, Massachusetts. A mosaic for two of three dominant markers in a male D. pseudoobscura.

A male was discovered with a spontaneous occurrance of Lobe and Delta on the right side but not on the left. Both wings were Blade but the phenotype for Bare was not clear. He was the result of a backcross mating of ♀♀ Ba/Δ;Bl/L x random ♂♂ having two of these markers, one for each of chromosomes II and III. He was able to sire progeny that indicated his genotype as $Ba/\Delta^{+};Bl/L$.

Hence, his somatic tissues expressed either ΔL or $\Delta^{+}L^{+}$, while the germinal tissue was $\Delta^{+}L$! We are puzzled for an explanation for this event. We would be grateful to hear from other Drosophila workers for interpretations and reports of similar mosaics.