and that previous negative results are not a consequence of interactions with the flora of usual culture media.


Sustaining levels of Adenosine 3',5'-cyclic monophosphate, (cyclic AMP) were measured in pre-adult and adult male Oregon-R, D. melanogaster. Pre-adult organisms at different stages of development were reared and collected as described elsewhere (1). All samples were homogenized in 0.32 M sucrose and adjusted to a final volume of 5 ml. Chitin was eliminated from the homogenates essentially as described in a previous note (2). An aliquot of the homogenate was then added to preloaded centrifuge tubes containing 1 ml of ice-cold 10% TCA. Following centrifugation at 17,000 x g for 10 minutes, at 0°C, the recovered supernatants were assayed for cyclic AMP by the method of Gilman (3).

Protein was determined on the homogenates according to the method of Lowry et al., (4).

No appreciable differences in sustaining levels of cyclic AMP were apparent in adult Drosophila which range in age from 1 day to 6 weeks, (Fig. 1). However, there appears to be considerable differences in the levels of cyclic AMP present in different pre-adult stages, (Fig. 1). It is evident that Drosophila eggs and 1st instar larvae possess levels of cyclic AMP which are 2 and 3 fold greater, respectively, than the remaining pre-adult Drosophila, as well as in those found in later stages. These preliminary results suggest that higher levels of cyclic AMP are present during those developmental stages of Drosophila in which there are high levels of mitotic activity.


Four laboratory populations of D. melanogaster were characterized at seven loci on the third chromosome controlling biochemical polymorphisms. The populations - Kaduna, Pacific, Canberra and Stellenbosch - differ in origin being from Nigeria, the Pacific coast of the U.S., Australia and South Africa respectively. The four stocks have been maintained for 23, 17, 13 and 3 years respectively since their capture in large population cages in the laboratory. The foundation stocks for all of them were above 100 females except Kaduna where the number is not known. The number of individuals analyzed and the frequencies of the different alleles are given in the following Table, A standing for the fastest anodic migrating form and the others in this order within each locus. (Table on next page).