

electroretinograms are very different. We suggest that carbon dioxide should be the anaesthetic of choice when measuring electroretinograms.

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References: Duus, K. M., W. J. Welshons, and J. R. Girton 1992, *Dev. Biol.* 151:34-47; Hotta, Y., and B. Benzer 1969, *Nature* 222:354-356; Stark, W. S. 1972, *Dros. Inf. Serv.* 48:82.

Goode, S. Department of Genetics, Harvard Medical School. Additional gain of function phenotypes associated with the *Ocellarless* gene of *Drosophila melanogaster*.

Ocellarless (*Oce*, 1-5.7)/+ females are missing 60-80% of ocellar and 90-95% of postvertical head bristles and sometimes show incised margins on the wings (Lindsley and Zimm, 1992). We report additional phenotypes of *Oce*/+ females. We find that ocelli of *Oce*/+ females are usually moved closer

together, or fused, and that additional head bristles are often missing or absent (Figure 1, A-C). The wings of *Oce*/+ flies typically have a gap in the fifth longitudinal wing vein and less frequently in the posterior cross vein (Figure 2, A-C). *Oce*/+ phenotypes do not result from haplo-insufficiency, since females heterozygous for *Df(1)HC244*, which removes DNA spanning the 3E to 4F region (approximate meiotic map positions 1-5 to 1-11.5), are completely wild type.

Both *Oce* wing vein gap and ectopic bristle phenotypes resemble phenotypes associated with loss and gain of function mutations of Notch receptor and the *Drosophila* EGF receptor (DER; Clifford and Schüpbach, 1989; Diaz-Benjumea and Hafen, 1994; Schellenbarger and Mohler, 1978; unpublished observations). *brainiac* (*brn*) maps within 0.2 map units of *Oce*, at position 5.9, and *brn* mutant animals display phenotypes common to both the Notch and EGF receptor signaling pathways (Goode *et al.*, 1992, 1996). We ruled out the possibility that *Oce* mutations are gain of function *brn* alleles. *Df(1)rb³³*, which was synthesized on an *Oce* chromosome (Banga *et al.*, 1986), fails to complement *brn* mutations, but still retains dominant *Oce* phenotypes.

Oce phenotypes are completely penetrant in *Oce/w v I^{Hts}* or *Oce/FM3* females reared at 29°C (n > 1400), making a simple F₁ reversion screen for rearrangements in the *Oce* gene easy. These rearrangements should be useful for isolation of *Oce* DNA sequences, since a genomic walk spanning the 3F-4A region has been completed (Goode *et al.*, 1996). Elucidation of the *Oce* molecular structure and function may add to our knowledge of Notch and/or DER signaling pathways.

References: Lindsley, D.L., and G.G. Zimm 1992, *The Genome of Drosophila melanogaster*. Academic Press, Inc., San Diego; Clifford, R.J., and T. Schüpbach 1989, *Genetics* 123: 771-787; Diaz-Benjumea, F.J., and E. Hafen 1994, *Development* 120: 569-578; Shellenbarger and Mohler 1978, *Dev. Biol.* 62: 432-446; Goode, S., D. Wright, and A.P. Mahowald 1992, *Development* 116: 177-192; Goode, S., M. Morgan, Y-P. Liang, and A.P. Mahowald 1996, *Dev. Biol.*, 178: 35-50; Banga, S.S., B.T. Bloomquist, R.K. Brodberg, Q.N. Pye, D.C. Larrive, J.M. Mason, J.B. Boyd, and W.L. Pak 1986, *Chromosoma* 93: 341-346.

Figure 1 (next page). *Oce* head phenotypes. Scanning electron micrographs of the dorsal side of wild type (A), and *Oce* (B,C) adult heads. Arrows point to the ocellar bristles and stars demarcate the postvertical bristles of wild type flies (A). These bristles are frequently missing in *Oce*/+ flies (B, C; Lindsley and Zimm, 1992). Further, the ocelli (arrows, A) are either moved closer together (B), or fused (C). Other head bristles are often missing or misplaced in *Oce*/+ flies. The "wild type" fly in (A) has an extra microchaete (x).



Figure 2. *Oce* wing phenotypes. Hoyer's mounts of wild type (A) and *Oce* mutant wings (B, C). *Oce* mutants frequently have a gap in the fifth longitudinal wing vein (B, arrow), and less frequently, in the posterior cross vein (C, arrow).

