

Using the combined evidence we are assigning *Nervana 1* and 2 to 27B1-2.

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References: Bridges, C.B., 1935, J. Hered. 26: 60-64; Bridges, P.N., 1942, J. Hered. 33: 403-408; Hepperle, B., 1995, Dros. Inf. Serv. 76: 175-176; Lefevre, G., 1976, *The Genetics and Biology of Drosophila* (Ashburner, M., and E. Novitski, eds.) Academic Press 1a: 31-66; Lin, J. K., 1993, Dros. Inf. Serv. 72: 73-77; Lindsley, D.L., and G.G. Zimm 1992, *The Genome of Drosophila melanogaster*. Academic Press; Neumann, C.J., and S.M. Cohen 1996, Genetics 142: 1147-1155; Sun, B., and P.M. Salvaterra 1995, Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA 92: 5396-5400; Tjong, S.Y.K., and D. Nash 1990, Genetics 124: 889-897.

## Mutation Notes - Other Species

**Report of M.S. Krishna and S.N. Hegde.** Drosophila Stock Centre, Department of Studies in Zoology, University of Mysore, Manasagangothri, Mysore 570 006, India.

A spontaneous mutation in *Drosophila malerkotliana*.

*Drosophila malerkotliana* is a member of the *bipectinata* complex of the *ananassae* subgroup of the *melanogaster* species group. No spontaneous or induced mutation has been described in this species so far. In the present study we report a spontaneous autosomal recessive mutation in *D. malerkotliana*.

In our laboratory we detected several females and males with spread wings in one stock which originated from a naturally inseminated isofemale line obtained from Janshi, India, in 1993. These spread-winged flies were aspirated out and maintained in vials containing wheat cream agar medium. These flies were used for making crosses. The crosses between spread-winged males and females produced spread-winged offspring indicating that the culture was pure for spread-wings.

Table 1. The normal, reciprocal and test crosses between normal and spread winged flies in *Drosophila malerkotliana*.

Class	Normal cross			Reciprocal cross			Test cross		
	Number observed (a)	Number expected (mn)	$\chi^2$	Number observed (a)	Number expected (mn)	$\chi^2$	Number observed (a)	Number expected (mn)	$\chi^2$
Wild	246.00	241.50	0.04	221.00	214.50	0.10	86.00	83.50	0.04
Spread wing	76.00	80.50	0.12	65.00	71.50	0.30	81.00	83.50	0.04
Total	322.00	322.00	0.16	286.00	286.00	0.40	167.00	167.00	0.08

P<sub>value</sub> = insignificant at 0.05 level.

The pattern of inheritance of spread-wings was studied by crossing spread-winged males with wild type females. In the reciprocal cross wild males and virgin mutants were used. In the F1 all the flies of both the crosses irrespective of sex were normal. This suggests the spread-winged mutant is an autosomal recessive gene. In the F2 progeny both wild and mutant flies appeared in a 3:1 ratio (Table 1). Thus these results suggest that the *spread winged* mutant (*spw*) is inherited as a normal Mendelian trait. The test cross results confirm the monofactorial inheritance of the *spread winged* gene. This could be the first report of mutation in *D. malerkotliana*.

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**Report of E. Solé and F. Mestres.** Dept. Genética, Fac. Biología, Universitat de Barcelona, 08071 Barcelona, Spain. One-winged flies obtained again in *D. subobscura*.

While carrying out lethal allelism in the population of *Centralia* (Washington) one-winged flies arose in one of the crosses. Two females and one male were found. Both females presented only the right wing and the male the left

wing. This trait has been observed in other experiments in which the *Va/Ba* balanced lethal strain was involved (Mestres and Busquets, 1991; Orengo and Mestres, 1993; Orengo *et al.*, 1997). The present finding seems to confirm that factors producing this phenotype are located in the *Va/Ba* strain.

References: Mestres, F., and D. Busquets 1991, *Dros. Inf. Serv.* 70: 145-146; Orengo, D. J., and F. Mestres 1993, *Rev. Brasil. Genet.* 16: 471-475; Orengo, D. J., E. Hauschteck-Jungen and F. Mestres 1997, *Bras. J. Genet.* 20: 359-361.

## Announcements

### Availability of Cheap Glass Vials

Information provided by Robert Farkas, Institute of Experimental Endocrinology, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Vlarska 3, 833 06 Bratislava, Kramare, Slovakia. email: [ueenfark@savba.savba.sk](mailto:ueenfark@savba.savba.sk)

Cheap glass vials for flies can be obtained from:

Sklarny Kavalier (Glassworks Kavalier) Co.  
Zavod 03  
41752 Hostomice  
Czech Republic  
Fax: (00420417) 926-888

They manufacture vials of various sizes according to customer's request; mostly 22-30 mm wide in diameter and 90-100 mm high. Customer may provide own technical picture of the vial. To my knowledge minimum order was 10,000 pcs, and the price according to my calculation was around \$ 0.10 per vial, but I do not know price change for overseas operations. Besides my friends and I from Czech Academy of Sciences, recently my colleagues from Heidelberg, Germany and *Drosophila* Stock Center in Szeged, Hungary ordered large numbers of fly vials from this source, and they have been satisfied.

### Orcein

Information provided by Robert Farkas, see address above.

Orcein for microscopy, which for a long time was on the market only as a synthetic compound, was not perfectly suited for staining polytene chromosomes. It has become available recently as natural orcein from Polysciences Inc., Warrington, PA 18976-2590, phone: 800-523-2575 under catalog number 19936. This price is higher than for the synthetic one; again, according to my calculations (because I bought it from Polysciences GmbH in Germany and paid in German marks) is about \$70 for 5 g.