

15th. November 1943.

Dear Keeler,

Miss Speyer has just shown me your letter to her, and I am writing to say that if in a month or two you let me know, I will gladly look out some more mice for you. If the mice you have are good enough to breed you will have both factors, varitint and luxate. However, luxate males have no very distinguished breeding record, and for my own purposes I find it best to turn the factor into a dominant, and run it as such in linkage tests. It is in the third chromosome, quite closely linked with W and pirouette, though I do not yet know for certain whether pirouette or luxate is in the middle of this trio.

I can run the factor satisfactorily as a dominant by introducing modifying factors, which make, so far as I can judge, a full 100% of the heterozygotes into manifestly polydactylous mice. In most of my stocks the proportion manifesting is tolerably low, not often more than 50%, and on outcrossing to wild mice the luxate gene becomes frankly recessive, with, I suspect, almost or quite 0% manifesting.

If we try again using consignment by air, I wonder if you could in some way precondition your quarantine service, so that they get a tolerable chance of coming through.

Yours sincerely,