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NEW MUTANTS

Perkins, D.D. and M. Bjorkman. A temperature-sensitive morphological mutant present in Beadle-Tatum and Rockefeller-Lindegren "wild-type" stocks and their derivatives.

A gene located in linkage group V that results in a spreading colonial phenotype at 39°C has been found in a wide variety of strains derived from Lindegren ancestry. The trait is erratic and difficult to score at 34°, and is not apparent at 25°. Expression is more marked on glycerol-complete medium than on Vogel's minimal medium N. The gene will be designated *scot*: spreading colonial temperature-sensitive.

The abnormality was noticed in two strains obtained from J.F. Wilson for studies of heterokaryon compatibility. Since the strains were derived from Rockefeller-Lindegren (RL) background, wild type strains RL21a (FGSC #2219) and RL3-8a (FGSC #2218) were subsequently tested, as were a sample of Wilson-Garnjobst het-testers from FGSC. Presence of *scot* in all these strains raised the question whether it might also be present in the ancestral Beadle-Tatum (strains 1A and 25 derived from Lindegren) and Lindegren wild types. Strains 1A and 25a proved to be morphologically abnormal at 39° and phenotypically identical to *scot* from RL strains. Commonly used relatives and derivatives of these wild types were also tested, with the results shown in Figure 1.

These observations are consistent with the *scot* gene having been introduced from a Lindegren strain that was ancestral to 25a and 1A, while the *scot*⁺ allele, characteristic of Emerson, Lein, St. Lawrence and Oak Ridge wild types, came from the Abbott ancestors.

The only stocks that are clearly inconsistent with this interpretation are FGSC 351 and 1758, which score as *scot* although they are ostensibly Abbott 12a. Both these stocks originated from Beadle's laboratory, either directly from M.B. Mitchell at Caltech or through ATCC. Two other stocks designated Abbott 12a by FGSC are of the expected *scot*⁺ genotype--FGSC 687 and 739. These both came from the laboratory of D.G. Catcheside, either directly to FGSC, or through M.J. Mayo.

D.G. Catcheside has shown that stocks supposed to be Lindegren a (-) (FGSC 541, withdrawn from the collection in 1971) and Emerson 5256 (FGSC 691) are suspect of being interlopers. This is based on their possession rec genotype inconsistent with their claimed ancestry or progeny (Austr. J. Biol. Sci. 28: 213-225, 1975). The L(-) stock (FGSC 541) is further suspect because it is albino. However, FGSC 541 is *scot*, consistent with its position in the pedigree. L(+) and L(-) stocks were deposited by Carl Lindegren in Centralbureau voor Schimmelcultures, Baarn, in 1937, where they survived the war and were carried for many years before acquisition by FGSC.

Intercrosses between two *scot* strains result in progeny all of which are *scot*. When a *scot* strain such as RL is crossed with a *scot*⁺ strain such as OR, the trait segregates 1:1. A 3-point cross showed

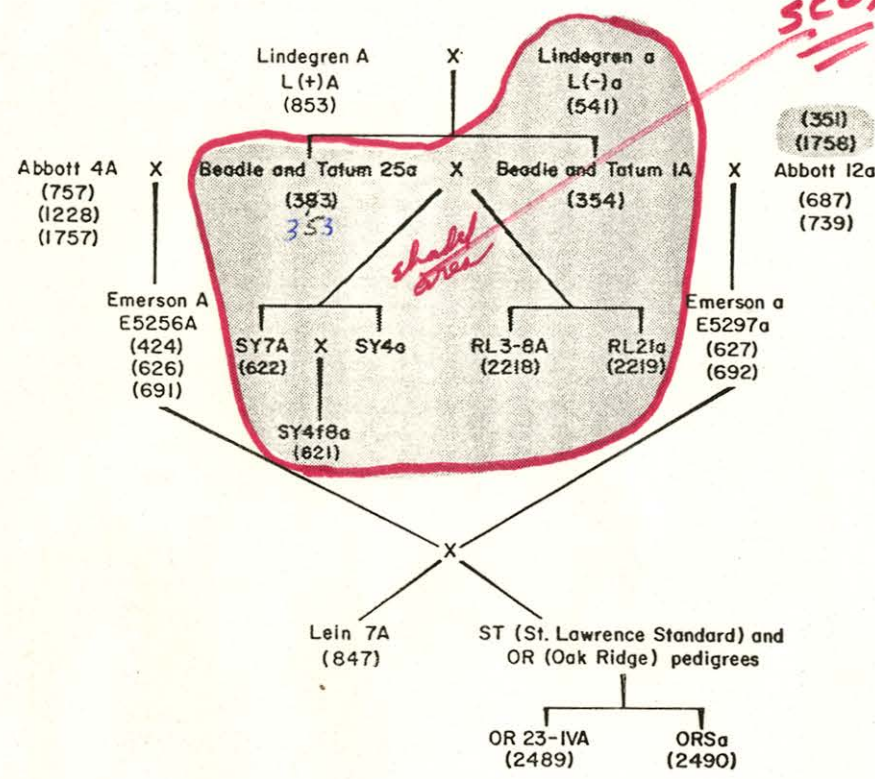


Figure 1. Pedigree of commonly used *N. crassa* stocks, indicating those whose phenotype is *scot* (shaded portion) and *scot*⁺ (not shaded). FGSC numbers are given in parentheses. All stocks were tested for *scot* at 39° vs. 25° except SY4a, which is not extant. Only stocks 351 and 1758 have phenotypes inconsistent with those of presumed progeny. Compare pedigrees in Barratt (Neurospora Newsl. 2: 24, 1962) and Catcheside (Austr. J. Biol. Sci. 28: 213, 1975).

scot is located in the right arm of V in the order *al-3 scot his-6*.

RL strains were adopted as standards in the Tatum laboratory at Rockefeller University. Presumably *scot* was not recognized because cultures were not ordinarily grown above 34°. All microscopic tests of compatibility employing het-testers of RL background were carried out by Wilson and Garnjobst (1966) in microcultures grown at 20° to 30° C. *scot* would thus not have been recognized by these workers.

We were not the first to observe a temperature-dependent morphological effect in strains of Lindegren background. Stuart Brody reported in 1970 (J. Bact. 101: 802) that RL3-8a grew with abnormal morphology at 34° in liquid shake-culture with 2% acetate as carbon source. Morphology was normal at 34° with 2% glucose, and at 23° with either carbon source. Dorothy Newmeyer (1972, unpublished) observed that the Beadle-Tatum strain 1A (FGSC 354) showed pelleted growth at 34° C when grown submerged in liquid medium with sucrose, where it resembled *scot*-1. The strain did not resemble *scot*-1 in tests on minimal agar slants at 34°, however. More recently, James F. Wilson (personal communication) observed independently that RL differed from OR in growth at 37°, and showed that the trait segregated 1:1 in reciprocal crosses.

The take-home lesson is: be prepared for anomalous behavior when *scot* wild types and any strains derived from them are grown at elevated temperatures. This potentially implicates many strains containing markers derived from Beadle and Tatum strains at Stanford