



DUKE UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER

Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology

12 June 2007

Dr. Kevin McCluskey
Fungal Genetics Stock Center

Dear Kevin,

Please find enclosed a spore sample of strain UBC21 of *Phycomyces blakesleeanus*. This is the strain that will be used for pyrosequencing and EST generation by the Department of Energy Joint Genome Initiative to complement their sequencing of another strain (NRRL1555). It is also the basis for a planned genetic map project for this fungus and use as a parent in mapping currently unknown mutations in *Phycomyces*. This is the same batch of spores as I am sending Luis Corrochano (University of Seville, Spain) and I will also set up cultures for DNA extraction for JGI.

Details:

Name: UBC21 Wild type Sex/mating type (+)

10371

I received the strain from Arturo Eslava (University of Salamanca, Spain) in March 2006. I suspect he took it with him from Caltech in the 1970s. I spoke with Patricia Burke about the strain in October 2006, and she said Max Delbrück was interested in setting up a good genetic system, and he asked lots of labs/herbaria for *Phycomyces* samples to find suitable parents. He received this one from someone at the University of British Columbia (hence the initials UBC). This does not necessarily mean it was isolated in Canada. The main attraction of UBC21 is that the zygospore dormancy (two months) is a lot shorter than all other wild type (+) strains. One reference that describes some aspects of the strain is: Alvarez MI, Eslava AP. (1983) Isogenic strains of *Phycomyces blakesleeanus* suitable for genetic analysis. *Genetics* 105(4):873-879.

Thanks for looking after the strain. I think Luis Corrochano is arranging to send some more *Phycomyces* strains to the FGSC. It is going to be an excellent resource!

See you in September,

Alexander Idnurm