My dear Ron,

You would no doubt receive from me a letter giving you the result of a count of 500 primates in Bagley Wood, Berkshire (near Oxford).

Two days ago I had unexpectedly to pay a visit to the Santanumia on the Quantocks. Taking a walk there, I had a most interesting experience. One of the species is this:

The Santanumia is in a remote place and its hills behind are far from houses and villages. The crops are heather moors mainly, but the sides and back of the hills are covered with vast heather.

Commission hedges of their usual dreamy conifers. Naturally they are unsuitable for primates. One finds patches of the plants in clearings or along the sides of the hidden paths. Such patches are far from each other and isolated.

As flowers in all the heathland communes I saw one normal except in one. This was
out of it, a narrow clearing beside a track and surrounded by pine trees. Nickly planted. It was approximately 225 yards long and varied from 20 to 100 yards wide. The pine trees were very common, and I estimate that 10% of them had pink flowers. The color varied from pale pink to deep brick-red. They were very beautiful and of course extremely distinct. I only saw a single plant in which was a slight flush of pink to rose, one was in doubt how to score it. My time was very short, but I measured out an area. The plants were common, and counted 83 definitely separate plants within it. Of these, 73 were yellow and 10 pink. Pinks were not always quite as common.

Now the interesting thing is that there must be a definitely distinct form (as I suppose) had also spread in this colony. For here the found plants with cream to white flowers. They were not of common outstanding pink. The light shone through them. Pink while, as I say, variable, and a few were a little
difficult to separate from the yellows, but must here clearly distinct. They have been common than the pisks: I estimate 2 to 3 %.

"Whites" and "pinks" are unfortunately distinctly genetically. The "whites" must surely be an allilation in anthocyanin pigment. The "pinks" must be due to the addition of an anthocyanin. It sounds unlikely that the same gene should have such distinct chemical effects in different plants.

Yet how curious that two mutant genes have spread in this colony. It may have undergone some fluctuation in numbers recently or have been spreading rapidly or something. I saw no simple white or pink forms among pruinose any more than in the woods. I had a friend with me who has much shrunk by the life, saying how very odd ordinary these large numbers I told him pruinose looked.

Eve yours,

[Signature]