Dear Sturtevant,

Thanks for your letter of May 17th. It is good of you to have had the records searched in the hope of finding the original basis of the table with which I was concerned.

In one sense it is not surprising that it is not with the other records, for it was obviously an experiment carried out on a larger scale and with greater thoroughness of design than was ordinarily thought necessary. I think one may judge that differential viability with some factors is exceedingly erratic from the wide heterogeneity ordinarily observable which the results from different collectors are presented separately. However, my problem does not concern the subjective assessment of what confidence is due, but the practical problem of making the best use of what has been in fact recorded.

Do you happen to know any later data on Drosophila in which the same type of experiment has been, perhaps more successfully, carried out.

Yours sincerely,