

October 30, 1942

Dear Major Darwin,

I think you will be interested to see from the enclosed offprint that the problem in Lythrum salicaria to which your niece, Lady Barlow, first called attention, has at last been solved.

The solution is interesting, as it completely vindicates Lady Barlow's caution in refusing to ignore anomalous indications which threw doubt on the obvious theory which she might have been tempted to put forward, and which Miss von Ubiach later paraded as though it were a considerable contribution to the subject.

The fact that the problem later baffled East, a man of somewhat irregular powers of penetration, but ample facilities for extensive work, seems further to emphasise the wisdom of Lady Barlow's caution.

It has been a great pleasure to me during the last seven years to ~~take~~ some steps in clearing up at least the genetics of the polymorphic situation which so much interested your father. Although the genetics constitute ^{only} a small part of the problem, it is, I think, essential to get them right before one can speculate usefully on the manner in which the present situation in Lythrum has come into existence.

Yours sincerely,