

September 25, 1970

Mr. D.J. Scott,
33 Regent's Park Road,
Millbrook, Southampton SO1 1PE
ENGLAND

Dear Jerome,

Please accept my apologies for not having completed before now a general agreement with Messrs. Jim Elliot and Walter Scott to produce tobacco in 1971 for your studies on the effect of nitrogen levels on smoke composition. However, I suppose that if tobacco for this experiment has to be grown elsewhere the next growing season may be much closer at hand in that area than it is in Canada. Consequently, I have just discussed this project in considerable detail with both these gentlemen and they have agreed to grow tobacco with your requirements in mind.

As you will recall, Mr. Elliot has had an experiment in recent years with flue-cured tobacco where rates of nitrogen application were 0, 24 and 48 lbs. per acre. He is prepared to expand this experiment and will add one or more higher rates. The only cultural variable will be nitrogen but he points out that the actual time of harvest and the duration of curing could differ for each nitrogen rate since ripeness (maturity) of the leaves can be greatly influenced by nitrogen. He also emphasizes that because of seasonal variations, etc., he is in no position to guarantee obtaining the desired nitrogen levels in the leaf and he is open to suggestions as to the higher rates of fertilization that may be required. I understand treatments in this experiment will be replicated four times.

Mr. Scott's experiments have produced burley tobaccos whose nitrogen levels range from about 2.0% to 3.8% but extreme rates of nitrogen application, such as 100 lbs. per acre or rates above 225 lbs. per acre have not been involved. Consequently, we feel that a special experiment involving only nitrogen levels is desirable and Mr. Scott is prepared to set up an experiment involving five or six plots (without replication although duplication of treatments could be discussed) which hopefully will produce the desired nitrogen levels in the leaf. Mr. Scott thinks that rates up to 500 lbs. per acre can be used, if carefully applied, without causing fertilizer burn. In fact he suggested that even higher rates might be applied successfully but (and this would depend on your objectives) only plots which produce reasonably normal appearing tobacco would be included in the smoke studies.

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Mr. D.J. Grant

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I know we are receiving excellent cooperation from Jim and Walter and believe these experiments should provide samples with fairly wide nitrogen levels. However, if backup experiments could be set up in another territory to duplicate this work it might provide some worthwhile insurance. We will look forward to receiving your comments.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

S.M. Boswell

S.M. Boswell,
Research Associate,
Agrology

GWJ/sg

cc: Dr. S.J. Grant

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