

lights used by the author were regulated by a clock and the period of illumination extended from 5 a. m. to 10 p. m. This period of illumination was decided on in an arbitrary manner and not from any particular evidence except that it had been observed that cultures of *Euglena* sharing the illumination grew better when there was less than 24 hours of continuous illumination.

After about two weeks, petri dishes containing the 1-cc portions of the original spore suspension will become green and various stages in development of young prothallia will be evident. After about six weeks, prothallia producing sex organs will be found in the petri dishes which were planted with 1-cc portions of the diluted spore suspensions. If not crowded the prothallia will show the form characteristics of the species planted. Ordinarily sporophytes will not develop unless the cultures are flooded with water to provide a medium for the movement of the antherozoids to the egg. If the fern species utilized as a spore source is one in which apogamy occurs, sporophytes develop without flooding.

Occasionally contamination of the cultures by fungi may occur. Most fungi grow poorly on the mineral nutrient agar and thus do not interfere with the growth of prothallia. Mites and small insects have at times tracked in the spores of fungi which have contaminated the cultures.

Prothallia may be left in the petri dishes for several weeks. However, after two to three months the agar will dry down somewhat and crack. Prothallia may be transplanted to fresh agar if it is desired to maintain them for a longer time. Some old prothallia proliferate freely, and new cultures of prothallia may be started by picking off the adventive prothallia and placing them on fresh agar plates.

The Mid-west Conservation Education Conference was held at Higgins Lake Conservation Training Camp at Roscommon, Michigan, October 10-13, 1954. Responsibility for the program was shared by Dr. G. W. Mouser, Michigan State College, and Dr. R. L. Weaver, the University of Michigan.

Biology in the News

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SHOULD YOUR BOY PLAY FOOTBALL?, Al Stump, *American Mag.*, October 1954, pp. 26, 109-113.

A sports writer gives some shocking reasons for the mounting toll of accidents on high school gridirons. The safety code which is included is worth considering by students and administrators alike.

THE RAIN FOREST, Lincoln Barnett, *Life*, Sept. 20, 1954, pp. 76-106.

The ninth in the series "The World We Live In." The color pictures and the descriptions of life in a tropical rain forest are equal to those which have preceded it in the series. Several copies of this article should find a place in your file of really worthwhile bulletin board materials.

THIS SCHOOL IS READY FOR THE H-BOMB, Herbert and Dixie Yahraes, *Sat. Ev. Post*, Sept. 25, 1954, pp. 45, 111-114.

Do you have disaster training in your school? Would you be prepared to meet emergencies if your city were bombed? The plan described in this article might be used, with a few modifications, in case of other types of disasters. This article might excite lively discussion about what protective training your school should have.

BEFORE YOU DIET, Ethel Strattan, *Cosmopolitan*, October 1954, pp. 46-49.

Thumb nail discussions of twenty key theories on dieting. A thoughtful reading will provoke many reactions from students.

12 DIETS FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY, Herbert Pollack, M.D., *Woman's Home Companion*, October 1954, pp. 109-112.

This article, based on recent research, contains good news for those who would diet successfully to gain weight, to lose weight or to maintain normal health.

THE GREAT CARNATION LOTTERY, Frank J. Taylor, *Sat. Ev. Post*, Oct. 9, 1954, pp. 28, 112-115.

Denver's nearly 300 days of sunshine each year has enabled its carnation growers to develop new varieties and to take top honors in kinds and carnation production in the United States.