

The Response to Artificial Selection from New Mutations in *Drosophila melanogaster*

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ABSTRACT

Twenty generations of divergent selection for abdominal bristle number were carried out starting from a completely homozygous population of *Drosophila melanogaster*. All lines were selected with the same proportion (20%) but at two different numbers of selected parents of each sex (5 or 25). A significant response to selection was detected in eight lines (out of 40) and, in most cases, it could be wholly attributed to a single mutation of relatively large effect (0.5–2 phenotypic standard deviations). The ratio of new mutational variance to environmental variance was estimated to be $(0.33 \pm 0.11) \times 10^{-3}$. The distribution of mutant effects was asymmetrical, both with respect to bristle number (85% of it was negative) and to fitness (most detected bristle mutations were lethal or semilethal). Moreover, this distribution was leptokurtic, due to the presence of major genes. Gene action on bristles ranged from additive to completely recessive, no epistatic interactions being found. In agreement with theory, larger responses in each direction were achieved by those lines selected at greater effective population sizes. Furthermore, the observed divergence between lines selected in opposite directions was proportional to their effective size, as predicted for mutations of large effect.

IN classical quantitative genetics theory, mutation was viewed as the primary source of variation on which natural selection could act on an evolutionary time scale, but was considered negligible for selection experiments. However, in the last decade, considerable effort has been devoted to expanding the theory by investigating the joint action of mutation, selection and drift on polygenic variation and selection response. Different models have been explored and, in each case, formulas obtained for the genetic variance maintained at equilibrium. These formulas are functions of the intensity of each of the three forces acting: 1) the effective population size (N), 2) the mutational input of genetic variance per zygote and generation (σ_m^2) and 3) the bivariate distribution of mutant effects on the trait and on reproductive fitness.

In the absence of selection, LYNCH and HILL (1986) have shown that the amount of neutral genetic variation that can be maintained by mutation-drift equilibrium is likely to exceed that commonly observed for most traits (MOUSSEAU and ROFF 1987; ROFF and MOUSSEAU 1987), even in populations of moderate effective size ($N > 500$). This suggests that some selective force is acting to reduce variation (KEIGHTLEY and HILL 1988; BURGER, WAGNER and STETTINGER 1989).

For directional (artificial) selection, theoretical anal-

yses by HILL and co-workers [see HILL and RASBASH (1986) and HILL and KEIGHTLEY (1988) for reviews] indicate that the longer the time horizon considered the more important will be the role of mutation in determining the response obtained. This response is dependent on the effective population size and the shape of the joint distribution of mutant effects. Predictions generally refer to neutral traits and a completely homozygous base population. In this situation, the expected cumulative response to artificial divergent selection will be proportional to N for genes of large effect and a slower increasing function of N under the infinitesimal model (HILL 1982b). However, a skewed distribution of mutant effects critically affects the response obtained in each direction (KEIGHTLEY and HILL 1987). The variance of the response to selection will also be dependent on N . It will be directly proportional to the response under the infinitesimal model and higher than that for genes of large effect (HILL and RASBASH 1986).

Experimental information on drift, mutation and selection can be summarized as follows. Effective population sizes can be estimated with varying precision, although they are usually substantially smaller than the number of potential parents. In *Drosophila* cage populations, their value has been calculated to be about 1/20 of the actual number of individuals present per generation (MALPICA and BRISCOE 1981; LÓPEZ-FANJUL and TORROJA 1982). In artificially selected *Drosophila* lines propagated with a small number of parents per generation, effective sizes are

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usually estimated to be between 50 and 70% of the census (CROW 1954).

Estimates of spontaneous mutational heritabilities (σ_m^2 scaled by the environmental variance) ranging from 5×10^{-2} to 10^{-4} have been obtained for several traits in experimental animals and cereal crops [see LYNCH (1988) for a review]. For induced mutations, there is some evidence (mostly restricted to bristle traits in *Drosophila*) that X-rays [see MACKAY (1989) for a review], γ -rays and chemicals (EMS) (DEMPLE and GRUNDL 1988) slightly increase the genetic variation available to selection, but this increment is usually associated with strong detrimental effects on fitness. Transposable element-induced mutations, again producing deleterious effects, can increase the genetic variance of bristle traits by two orders of magnitude more than that obtained from spontaneous mutations (LAI and MACKAY 1990).

Very little is known about the distribution of mutant effects on quantitative traits. It may show considerable asymmetry, as observed for abdominal and sternopleural bristle number (LAI and MACKAY 1990). Moreover, mutations of large effect will result in considerable leptokurtosis, as repeatedly reported for bristle traits (SHRIMPTON and ROBERTSON 1988a,b); and they generally lower the fitness of their carriers, as found in many long-term selection experiments (YOO 1980).

This paper reports a *Drosophila* selection experiment started from a genetically homogeneous base population. The data provide information on the mutational heritability of the selected trait (abdominal bristle number) and the shape of the joint distribution of mutant effects on the trait and fitness. In addition, theoretical predictions of response to selection from new mutants and its variation have been checked.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The isogenic base population: A line was made isogenic for all four chromosomes employing the crossing scheme illustrated in Figure 1. The following balancer chromosomes were used: FM6 (chromosome X, carrying the dominant marker *Bar*), SM5 (chromosome II, carrying the lethal dominant marker *Cy*: curly wings), and TM3 (chromosome III, carrying the lethal dominant markers *Sb*: stubble bristles and *Ser*: serrate wings). In addition, the FM6 stock carried the lethal dominant marker apterous-Xasta (ap^{Xa}) associated with a translocation between chromosomes II and III. Crossing over is virtually absent in the very small chromosome IV (HOCHMAN 1976). To make it isogenic, a stock was used carrying the lethal dominant markers ci^d (cubitus interruptus-Dominant) and *M(4)* (Medium minute). In the presence of all balancer chromosomes (FM6, SM5 and TM3), recombination events at chromosomes X and III have been occasionally observed. Notwithstanding, they can be detected in our case and its carriers discarded (generations 3 and 4) by recourse to the recessive markers present in the balancer chromosomes. The isogenic line also carried the recessive eye-color marker *sepia* (*se*) in chromosome III, as an indicator of possible contaminations.

Six different isogenic lines were obtained and tested for homozygosity by submitting them to three generations of divergent selection for abdominal bristle score (3-generation average divergence -0.01 ± 0.09 bristles). One of these lines, showing a response to divergent selection in the direction opposite to expectation, was chosen to be the base population of this experiment (3-generation average divergence -0.17 ± 0.04 bristles).

The selected lines: Starting from the isogenic line, 20 generations of divergent mass selection were carried out on bristle number on the 4th and 5th sternites of males and the 5th and 6th sternites of females. There were two groups of lines: small (S) and large (L), maintained with five or 25 pairs of parents per generation, respectively. In the first group, there were 16 replicates selected upward (lines S+, denoted 1+ to 16+) and 16 selected downward (lines S-, denoted 1- to 16-). These replicates were selected with proportion 5/25 of each sex every generation, the five selected pairs being allowed to mate and lay eggs in a vial for 4 days. In the second group, there were four replicates selected upward (lines L+, denoted A+ to D+) and four selected downward (lines L-, denoted A- to D-), with proportion 25/125 of each sex every generation. The 25 pairs selected were randomly divided in five groups of equal size, each group placed in a different vial and treated as above. Each of these vials contributed 25 offspring of each sex to the scored population. Therefore, selection was carried out with the same proportion (20%) in all lines, but at two different population sizes, that of the L lines being five times greater.

Control line: A control line was maintained in eight bottles employing a circular mating scheme to ensure a sufficiently large population (about 800 parents per generation). The performance of the control line was evaluated on 100 individuals scored per sex and generation, starting with generation 11. To produce control flies which had developed under exactly the same conditions as the selected flies, standard vial cultures were set up with five males and five virgin females as parents, using only parents which were also produced in standard vial cultures. Thus, two successive generations of vial culture were required for each generation in which controls were measured. This procedure insured a uniform culture density in the control and selected lines. Moreover, control and selected lines were kept strictly contemporary and under the same environmental conditions.

Culture conditions: Flies were reared on the standard medium formula of this laboratory (brewer's yeast-agar-sucrose). All cultures were incubated at $25^\circ \pm 1$ under continuous lighting. The control line was kept in 250-ml bottles with 50 ml medium added, but vials (35 mm diameter, 105 mm height) with 20 ml medium were used for evaluation. All selected lines were maintained in these vials. The generation interval was 3 weeks, both in the control and the selected lines.

Crosses between selected lines: All possible crosses between pairs of lines previously showing a significant response to selection in the same direction were made after the response plateaued (generations 15–18). Selection on these crosses was subsequently continued for a further 6–15 generation period. Each parental line contributed three individuals of each sex selected out of 15 as parents. Selection was continued from the offspring of the two reciprocal crosses with proportion 5/25 of each sex.

Reverse and relaxed selection lines: This analysis refers only to lines showing a significant response to forward selection. Starting at generation 16–17, selection was reversed and carried out with proportion 5/25 of each sex for

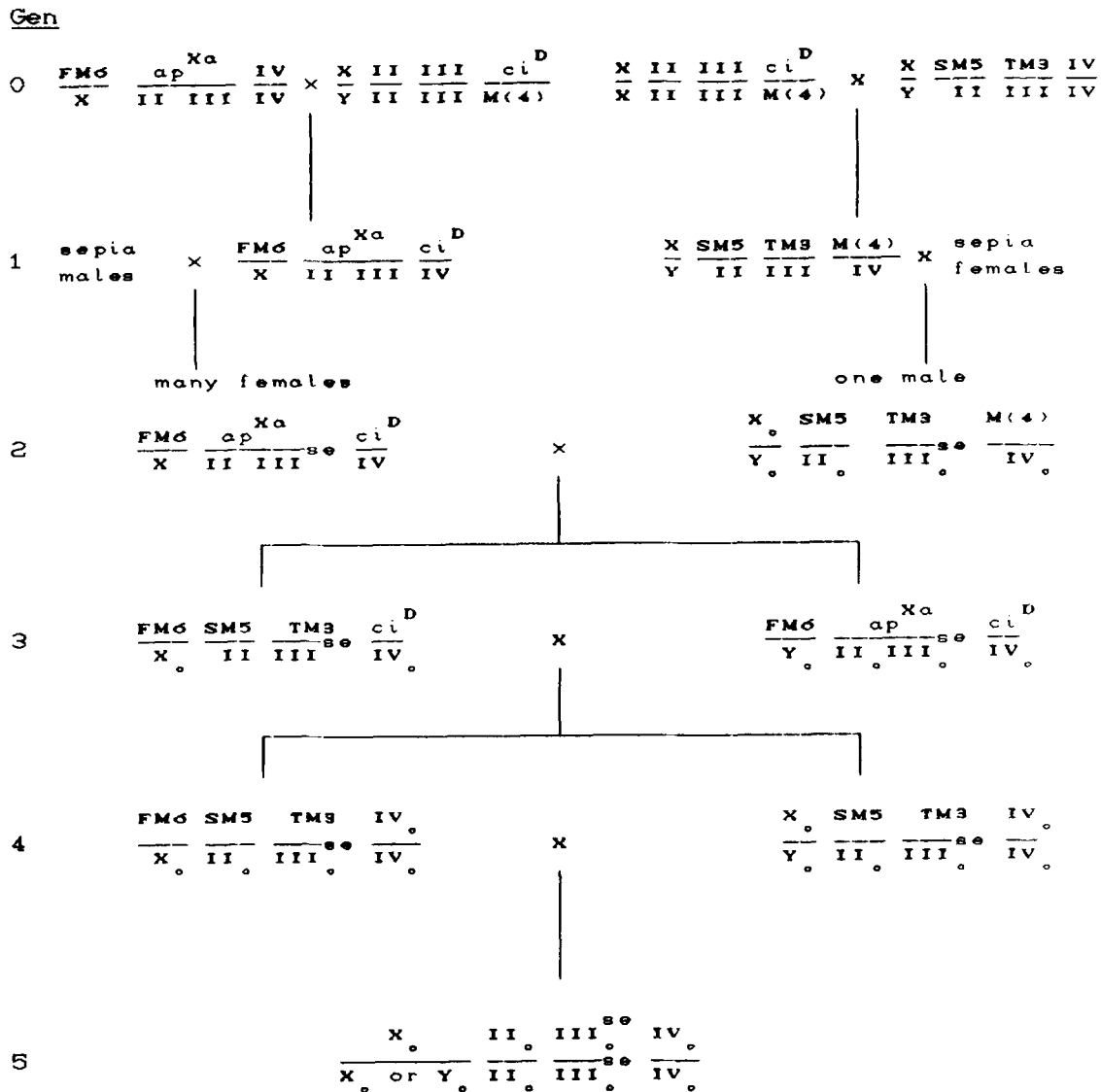


FIGURE 1.—Crossing scheme used to obtain the isogenic line.

7–10 generations. In parallel, selection was relaxed, beginning at generation 16–25 and these lines were maintained thereafter with as many parents as possible. Their performance was evaluated at intervals during a subsequent period of 12–20 generations of relaxation. To do this, a random sample of five males and five virgin females was taken from each relaxed line and mated together in a vial, the trait being scored in 50 offspring of each sex. The same culture density was, therefore, achieved in all forward selected, reverse selected and relaxed lines, and the control line.

Lethal analysis: Chromosomes *II* and *III* of all lines showing a significant response to selection, together with those of the control line, were screened for lethals using the SM5(Cy)-TM3(Ser) stock. At generation 20, the five extreme males in the direction of selection out of 25 (S lines) or 125 (L lines) were used, and a random sample of 4–5 second and 4–5 third chromosomes for each male was tested for lethality. The probability of a lethal carried by only one male not being detected was thus 1/16–1/32. Lethal chromosomes were isolated and their allelic relationships tested by half-diallel crosses within males, between males within lines and across lines. A minimum of 20 offspring per cross was examined.

In each line carrying a lethal, 130 males were both scored for bristles and classified as homozygous nonlethal or heterozygous for the lethal. The difference between the mean bristle number in the two groups estimates the effect of the lethal on the selected trait in the heterozygote.

Semilethal analysis: The viability of a third chromosome semilethal homozygote (*s/s*) relative to that of the heterozygote (*s/+*), was estimated by the method described by WALLACE (1956) as $2(1-r)/r$, *r* being the proportion of individuals carrying the marker among the progeny of a cross between parents heterozygous for both the semilethal and the balancer TM3 (TM3/*s*).

The effect of the semilethal on bristle number was estimated as follows. In each of three crosses (TM3/*s* × TM3/*s*, TM3/*s* × +/+ and TM3/+ × +/+) the difference (*A*, *B* and *C*, respectively) in bristle score between the progeny carrying and not carrying the marker was calculated. The effects of *s/+* and *s/s* relative to +/+ are given by *C - B* and $2C - A - B$, respectively. This procedure assumes independence of the effects of *s* and TM3 in the heterozygote.

Chromosomal analysis: Tests of effects of different chromo-

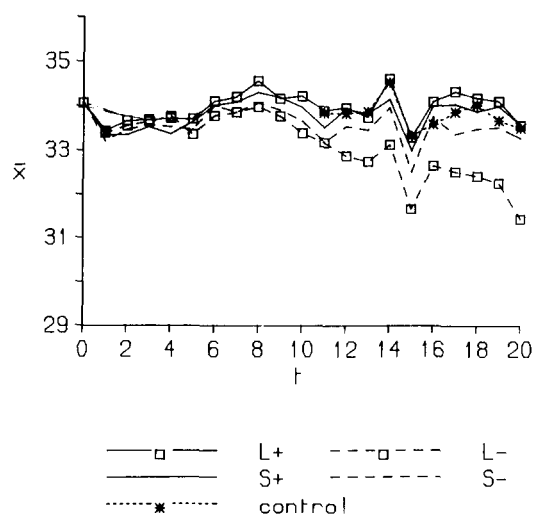


FIGURE 2.—Average bristle score plotted against generation number for each type of selected lines and the control line.

mosomal substitutions on bristle score were undertaken using the technique of OSMAN and ROBERTSON (1968). At generation 13, males from a stock with a dominant marker on each autosome (*Cy*, *Sb*, *ci^p*) were crossed to females of the 11- and the control (*C*) lines. In each cross, male offspring carrying all three markers were crossed again to females from each of the two lines, and the bristle score recorded on 10 males and 10 females of each of the eight different genotypes in the progenies of the second crosses (11- × 11-, 11- × *C*, *C* × 11-, *C* × *C*).

Gonadal sterility tests: The *P* factor activity and the cytotype regulating activity of lines, were determined by the percent gonadal sterility at 29° of the female offspring of its crosses to Canton-S females or Harwich males, respectively, following the procedure outlined by KIDWELL (1986).

RESULTS

The individual replicates: No significant divergence was detected between the overall means of the upward and downward selected lines during the first five generations of selection (0.02 ± 0.04). This result confirms the homozygosity of the original stock. However, in the course of 20 generations of selection clear differences emerged between controls and the means of selected lines (Figure 2). The control line was scored only during the second half of the experiment (generations 11–20). The regression coefficient of the control mean on generation number was -0.03 ± 0.04 , not significantly different from zero. However, significant upward and downward trends were apparent and should be attributed to environmental fluctuations, as they were paralleled by similar changes in the selected lines in both directions of selection (Figure 2). To evaluate the difference between each selected line and the control line, the average divergence from generations 11 to 20 was tested for significance. Empirical standard errors were computed from the divergences calculated in each generation. As there were 40 lines (Figure 3), a type I error of 0.01 was deemed necessary. Six lines selected down-

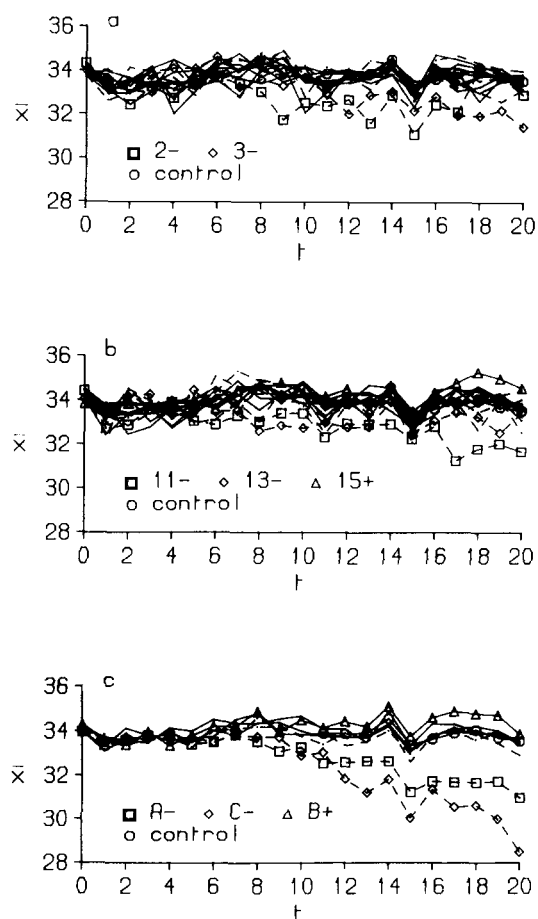


FIGURE 3.—Mean bristle score plotted against generation number: a) lines 1–8 (+ and -), b) lines 9–16 (+ and -), c) lines A–D (+ and -).

ward (2-, 3-, 11-, 13-, A- and C-) and two selected upward (15+ and B+) departed significantly from the control. The evolution of these lines is shown in Figure 4, where the mean of the 32 lines showing no response was taken as a control from generation 0 to 10. Near the end of the 20-generation period, three of the responding downward selected lines (2-, 13- and C-) fluctuated in the direction of the control line, but in later generations all three lines returned to their earlier selected levels, as will be shown below.

Apparently, most lines diverged from the control between generations 5 and 8. This statement, however, needs some qualification as considerable oscillations of the means of the lines, probably due to unidentified environmental agents, were common throughout the experiment. For example, it is difficult to decide at which generation the response observed in lines 15+ and B+ started. In general, the *S* lines showed a rapid change in the mean in the course of two or three generations, with an average response to selection of 0.7 phenotypic standard deviations, and with subsequent maintenance of this new level. This suggests that the response can be attributed in each case to a single mutation of relatively large effect,

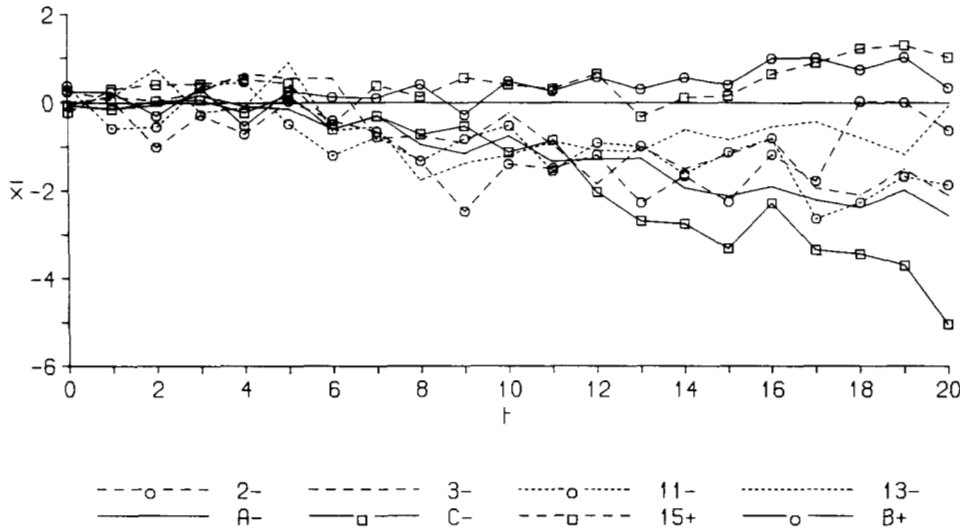


FIGURE 4.—Deviation of mean bristle score from control (generations 11–20) or from average of lines with no detected response (generations 0–10), plotted against generation number for the lines showing a significant response to selection.

rapidly reaching its maximum possible frequency. A more gradual response was observed in the *L* lines, possibly due to the initial frequency of mutations being one-fifth of that in the *S* lines. Only in line 11– was there a clear pattern of a second major mutation occurring within the same line, in generations 17 to 18.

A permanent increase of the phenotypic variance associated with the response observed was apparent in three lines (2–, A– and C–). This is an indication of the presence of mutations that cannot be fixed by selection, *i.e.* lethals with a pleiotropic effect on bristles. The phenotypic variance of line 13– also increased when the corresponding response appeared, fluctuating strongly afterward. That of line 11– increased as well during its first period of response, but afterward the variance returned to its previous level. This observation suggests that the mutation responsible for that response was fixed by selection.

All flies scored were sepia homozygotes, indicating that no genetic contamination from external sources occurred in any of the lines.

Overall behavior of the selected lines: Statistics summarizing this part of the experiment are presented in Table 1. Selection intensities were estimated per line and generation as the applied selection differential in phenotypic standard deviation units. The average values for each group of replicates were very close to their expected values (BECKER, 1967). The average response of a group of lines is given as deviation from the control over the last three generations of selection, and it was only significant in the downward direction, both for the *S*– and *L*– lines. Therefore, the response was markedly asymmetric, pointing to a parallel asymmetry of the distribution of mutant effects. Moreover, only two lines responded to upward selection during the period considered, as compared to six in the downward direction. The expected di-

vergence between lines of the same effective size selected in opposite directions was calculated assuming that all mutations have large effects normally distributed around zero, and a mutational heritability of 10^{-3} , as estimated from previous experiments (HILL 1982b; LYNCH 1988).

The evolution of the variances of the means of the replicates is shown in Figure 5 for each group of lines. No appreciable changes were noticed in the upward lines, as only one of each type showed a significant response to selection. However, the variance of the means of the downward selected replicates clearly increased with time, gradually in the *S*– lines and speedily in the *L*– lines. This pattern is expected when most mutations have large effects but not under the infinitesimal model, where the variance of the response should be strictly proportional to that response (HILL 1985; HILL and RASBASH 1986). The variance of the means of the 32 lines in which no response was detected did not significantly increase during the whole experiment (regression coefficient of that variance on generation number -0.002 ± 0.003). Therefore, no indication of genetic differentiation among these lines has been found. This suggests that minor mutations have not yet made a significant contribution to the response to selection.

The average phenotypic variance (Table 1) was very similar in the four groups of selected lines and clearly exceeded the corresponding value in the control (average value over generations 11–20: 3.86). This is likewise expected as a much larger number of generations will be needed in the control to attain the equilibrium variance, although its magnitude will eventually be much higher in the control than in the selected lines.

Mutational heritabilities: Mutational variances (σ_m^2) have been calculated in the selected lines assuming that all mutations had additive effects symmetri-

TABLE 1
Response to selection and associated parameters for each type of line

	Type of line			
	S+	S-	L+	L-
Intensity of selection				
Expected	1.34	1.34	1.39	1.39
Observed ^a	1.32	1.32	1.36	1.34
Response to selection ^b	0.08 ± 0.14	-0.31 ± 0.11*	0.21 ± 0.16	-1.72 ± 0.20*
Divergence				
Expected ^c		1.37		6.86
Observed ^b		0.39 ± 0.18*		1.93 ± 0.26*
Phenotypic variance ^d	4.20 ± 0.29	4.44 ± 0.28	4.48 ± 0.08	4.87 ± 0.21
Between-line variance ^d	0.22 ± 0.11	0.64 ± 0.03	0.13 ± 0.04	3.55 ± 0.74

^a Average over 20 generations of selection.

^b Deviations from control averaged over generations 18–20.

^c Expectations for mutants of large effects: $2tNi\sigma_m^2/\sigma$ (see text for values used).

^d Average over generations 18–20.

* $P < 0.05$.

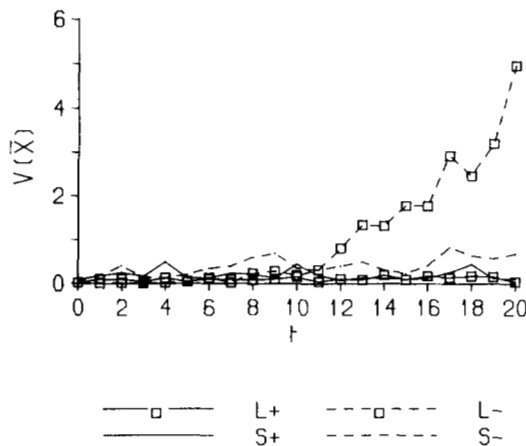


FIGURE 5.—Between line variance plotted against generation number for each type of selected lines.

cally distributed around zero. Neutrality has also been assumed although the action of natural selection will lead to underestimates of the mutational variance.

For a trait with phenotypic variance σ^2 , the expected cumulative response Rc after t generations of selection with intensity i in an initially isogenic line of effective size N is given by

$$Rc = 2Ni\sigma_m^2(t - 2N(1 - \exp(-t/2N)))/\sigma$$

(HILL 1982b) under the infinitesimal model or, for genes of large effect (greater than σ/Ni ; HILL 1982b), which are fixed instantaneously, by

$$Rc = 2tNi\sigma_m^2/\sigma.$$

Using these equations, expectations under both hypotheses have been calculated for each line. The following parameter values have been used: effective size equal to 60% of the number of parents per generation, phenotypic variance equal to the average of the control line, observed average selection intensity, and cumulative response estimated by the average devia-

TABLE 2
Mutational heritabilities ($\times 10^{-3}$) calculated under the infinitesimal model or for mutants of large effect in each type of line

Type of line	Mutant effects	
	Small	Large
S+	0.32 ± 0.32	0.17 ± 0.16
S-	1.08 ± 0.61*	0.53 ± 0.30
Average	0.70 ± 0.34*	0.35 ± 0.17*
L+	0.49 ± 0.38	0.07 ± 0.05
L-	3.84 ± 2.07	0.55 ± 0.30
Average	2.16 ± 1.05*	0.31 ± 0.15*
Overall average	1.43 ± 0.55*	0.33 ± 0.11*

* $P < 0.05$ (one-tailed t test, standard errors of averages $SE(1 + 2)$ based on the standard errors of original estimates by the formula $SE(1 + 2) = 1/2((SE(1))^2 + SE(2))^2$).

tion from the control over the last three generations of selection.

Mutational heritabilities obtained under both hypotheses, together with their corresponding empirical standard errors, are given in Table 2 for all groups of lines. All averages were significantly different from zero. Estimates from the downward selected lines were higher, reflecting the negative asymmetry of the response to selection. In this respect, more reliable estimates can be obtained by averaging over both directions of selection.

The mutational heritability can also be estimated from the control data under a drift-mutation model, assuming stability of the environmental variance of the trait. After 20 generations, the expected increment in variance due to mutation is given by Equation 22 in LYNCH and HILL (1986). Its observed value per generation can be calculated as the regression coefficient of the phenotypic variance of the control on generation number (0.06 ± 0.04). An estimate of the mutational heritability of 2.3×10^{-2} was obtained from an effective size equal to 60% of the number of

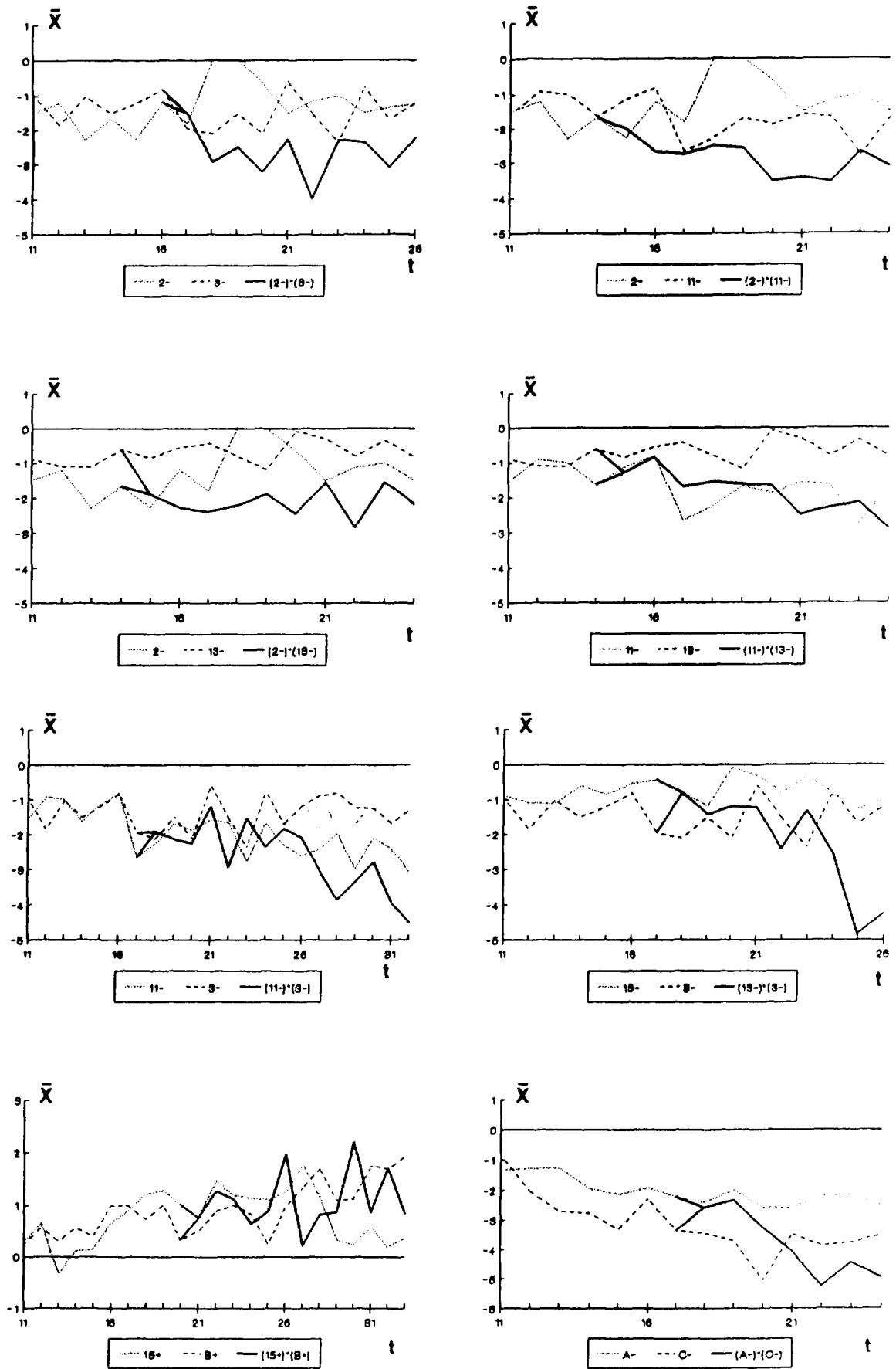


FIGURE 6.—Deviation of mean bristle score from control plotted against generation number for pairs of lines responding to selection and their corresponding selected synthetics.

TABLE 3

Final response to downward selection (averaged over t generations after response ceased) attained by synthetics formed by crossing pairs of selected lines (R_s), compared to the sum of the responses (averaged from generation 11 up to that in which the cross was made) attained by the corresponding parental lines (R_p) (all R 's in deviations from control)

	Synthetic						
	2- × 3-	2- × 11-	2- × 13-	3- × 11-	3- × 13-	11- × 13-	A- × C-
t	9	8	9	5	2	4	3
R_p	2.90	2.93	2.58	3.45	2.12	2.19	4.21
(SE)	0.26	0.30	0.26	0.28	0.20	0.22	0.36
R_s	2.76	2.99	2.16	3.69	4.54	2.45	4.88
(SE)	0.20	0.15	0.14	0.29	0.30	0.16	0.24
$R_s - R_p$	-0.14	0.06	-0.42	0.24	2.42*	0.26	0.67
(SE)	0.33	0.33	0.29	0.40	0.36	0.27	0.43

* $P < 0.05$.

TABLE 4

Average bristle number of offspring of reciprocal crosses between synthetics showing extreme responses to selection in opposite directions (crosses made at generation t)

Cross ($\delta \times \varphi$)	t	$\delta\delta$	$\varphi\varphi$
(15+ × B+) × (2- × 3-)	24	28.83 ± 0.44	36.13 ± 0.48
(2- × 3-) × (15+ × B+)	24	28.63 ± 0.32	36.43 ± 0.47
(15+ × B+) × (A- × C-)	25	27.70 ± 0.42	33.80 ± 0.37
(A- × C-) × (15+ × B+)	25	27.63 ± 0.35	33.73 ± 0.39

parents per generation (800). However, effective sizes as low as 10% of the number of parents only modify this estimate at the fifth decimal point. The mutational heritability estimated from control data was much larger than those calculated from the response to selection. Nevertheless, it was not significantly different from zero, since it was based on the above mentioned regression coefficient that was also nonsignificant. This illustrates the difficulty of estimating the mutational heritability without selection.

Selection from crosses between lines: The evolution of the mean of the eight selected synthetics formed by crossing pairs of lines which had previously shown a significant response to selection, together with that of the corresponding parental lines, is presented in Figure 6. All synthetics selected downward clearly exceeded the level attained by both parental lines. Different mutations were, therefore, responsible for the response observed in each line. On the other hand, the cross between the two lines responding to upward selection did not surpass the parental level when selection was continued. Nothing can, however, be concluded from this negative result, since the mean of the three lines included in the comparison fluctuated considerably during the period considered, and one parental line (B+) continued responding after the cross was made. Thus, it is difficult to accept the alternative hypothesis of the same mutation having been selected in both parental lines.

The deviations from the control of both the means of the downward selected synthetics (averaged over

generations after response ceased) and the sum of the means of the corresponding parental lines (averaged from generation 11 to that in which the crosses were made) are shown in Table 3. We estimated the cessation of response by finding the earliest generation such that the regression coefficient of the mean deviation from the control on generation number did not differ significantly from zero. It should be pointed out that synthetics 3- × 13- and A- × C- showed a markedly reduced fertility and were lost at generations 24 and 26, respectively. Therefore, their final responses had to be calculated from the means of the last 2-3 generations of selection. Synthetic 3- × 11- was formed in generation 17, after a second major mutation occurred within line 11- (see below). In this particular instance, the response of line 11- was calculated as the average deviation from control over generations 17-20. Only in one case (3- × 13-) was the mean of a synthetic significantly different from the sum of the means of its parents. On the whole, the results suggest little or no epistatic gene action between pairs of newly arisen mutations.

At generation 24-25, reciprocal crosses were made between those synthetics showing the largest responses in opposite directions (15+ × B+, 2- × 3- and A- × C-), the results being shown in Table 4. No significant differences were found between the means of individuals of the same sex from reciprocal crosses. Thus, additive genes on the X chromosome do not appear to be involved in the observed responses to selection.

The effects of reverse and relaxed selection: Lines previously responding to selection (excepting line 11-) subsequently responded to reverse selection, recovering their original (control) level in all cases (Figure 7). This indicates that the mutations responsible for the initial response have not reached fixation.

The mean of the downward selected lines (again except line 11-) also regressed to the original level after a subsequent period of relaxation, suggesting the deleterious effects of the selected mutations (Fig-

ure 8). However, the mean of the two lines responding to upward selection did not regress under relaxation. Apparently, mutations increasing the bristle score of their carriers were not closely connected to fitness.

The analysis of the lethals: A different lethal was detected in each of lines 2-, 3-, 13- and A-. Their effect on bristles as well as their frequencies are listed in Table 5, together with other relevant information. No lethals were detected in any of the remaining lines examined (11-, C-, 15+, B+ and control).

Lethals in lines 2-, 13- and A- had a similar significant pleiotropic effect on bristles of 0.6 phenotypic standard deviations. Their frequencies were close to one-third, this being the expected value when artificial selection favors the heterozygous form of a recessive lethal. The expected response of each line can be calculated by assuming that it can be totally attributed to the corresponding lethal. This value can be compared to the actual mean deviation from the control. Observed and predicted responses were not significantly different for lines 2- and 13-, indicating that, in both cases, the response attained was due to a single mutation. However, the response achieved by line A- can only be partially attributed to the lethal. Finally, the lethal found in line 3- had an appreciable frequency but no effect on bristles. In this situation, the hypothesis that the response observed can be attributed to a different gene closely linked to the lethal should be considered.

A semilethal (*s*) was detected on chromosome III of line C-, the viability of the homozygote relative to that of the heterozygote being 0.37. The effect of *s* in the homozygote was -4.12 ± 1.02 bristles, not significantly different from the average difference in mean between line C- and the control (-3.94 ± 0.24 bristles). Therefore, the presence of *s* explains the whole response observed. With respect to bristle score, the gene action appears to be completely recessive, the effect of *s* in the heterozygote not being significantly different from zero (-0.59 ± 0.56 bristles).

Line 11-: This line showed an early response to selection, followed by a long period of stability (average deviation from control over generations 11-16: 1.17 ± 0.14 bristles). This response was associated with a drastic jump of the phenotypic variance, occurring between generations 9 and 11, its value returning to the initial level afterward. A second response of comparable magnitude occurred at generation 17 (average deviation from control over generations 17-20: 2.12 ± 0.22 bristles). Therefore, there is an indication that two different mutations affecting bristles have appeared in this line.

No response to reverse selection starting at generation 16 (before the second response appeared) was obtained, indicating that the mutation responsible for

the first response had already been fixed. The return to normal of the phenotypic variance also conformed with this view. However, relaxed selection starting at generation 18 (after the second response was completed) resulted in a significant upward trend and the mean of the line regressed to the level attained before generation 17. Therefore, the second mutation has not been fixed and had a deleterious effect.

At generation 20, the relaxed line 11-, in which only the first mutation would be present (and fixed) was crossed to the control line. This cross was subsequently relaxed during four generations and, at that moment, its divergence from the control (0.68 ± 0.41 bristles) did not significantly differ from half of the first response shown by the line (0.58 ± 0.07 bristles). This result indicates that the first mutation acts additively for bristles and is practically neutral with respect to fitness.

Homozygous and heterozygous effects of individual chromosomes of line 11- have been calculated as deviations from the control line. Only the homozygous effect of chromosome II approached significance (-1.75 ± 1.31 bristles) and its magnitude was similar to that of the response observed in the line. In parallel, the heterozygous effect of chromosome II was highest (-0.74 ± 0.66 bristles) and comparable to half the response achieved. These results indicate that the mutant responsible should be located on chromosome II. They also provide further support in favor of an additive gene action for bristle score of the first mutation.

Dysgenic potential of selected lines: Only those synthetics showing the largest response in both directions of selection were tested, the results being shown in Table 6. Complete gonadal sterility was found in the female offspring of the cross between Harwich males and Canton-S females, confirming both the strong *P* factor activity of the Harwich strain and the M cytotype of the Canton-S strain. The small percent gonadal sterility in the progeny of crosses to Canton-S females indicates a reduced capacity to induce transposition, and that found in the progeny of crosses to Harwich males, points toward a variable cytotyperegulating activity. Therefore, our selected lines and, correspondingly, the isogenic base population, can be classified either as Q (weak P) or M' (pseudo-M). In this situation, some intact *P* elements may be present at a small frequency and they may sporadically induce mutation by transposition.

The effect of increasing temperature on selection response: Due to an accident, the temperature at which the selected lines were kept increased above the planned 25° at generation 6. This may have been the cause of the response although it seems a remote possibility. Therefore, an attempt was made to investigate the effect of a rise in temperature on the re-

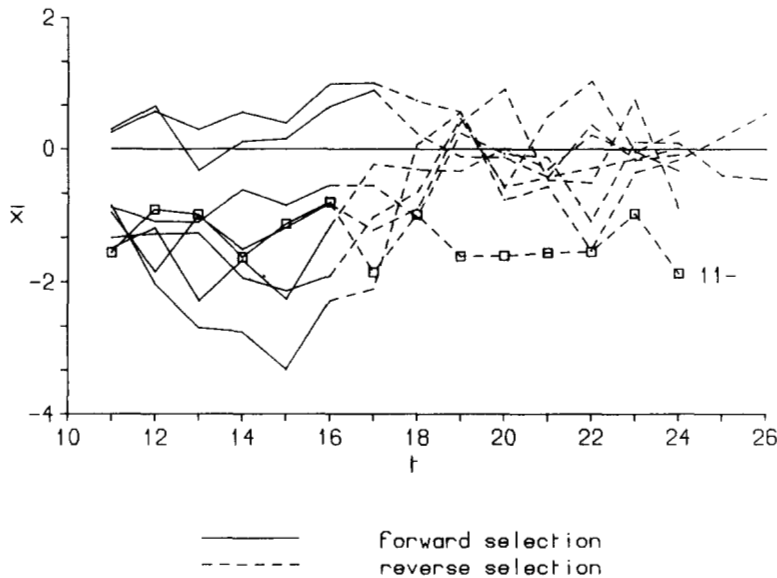


FIGURE 7.—Response to reverse selection as a deviation from control, in lines previously responding to forward selection.

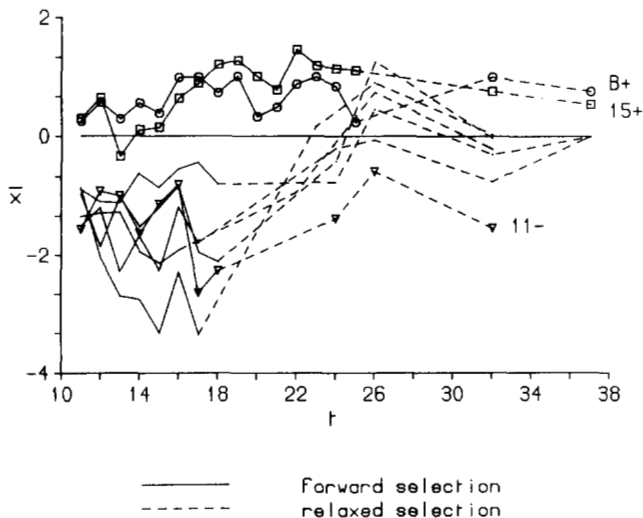


FIGURE 8.—Response to relaxed selection as a deviation from control, in lines previously responding to forward selection.

sponse achieved over the next few generations. At generation 17, a second batch of 25 offspring of each sex was collected in lines 7, 8, 10 and 12 (+ and -). From these samples, selection was continued for five generations at 29° (generation 18) or 27° (generations 19–22), with the same proportion (5/25 of each sex) and in the same direction as in the corresponding replicates at 25°, which were scored simultaneously. No significant change of the mean was detected in these lines at any temperature.

DISCUSSION

A genetically homogeneous base population is necessary for unambiguously ascribing to new mutation the selection response observed in a line. It also simplifies the study of the genetic properties of the mutations arising in individual replicates. An isogenic line was considered to meet this requirement better

than a highly inbred line, as the latter will always show some residual genetic variation. Two pieces of information confirmed that our isogenic line was completely homozygous. First, no significant divergence was found between lines selected in opposite directions during the first five generations, or in the earlier 3-generation testing period. Second, the large effect of the mutations detected in later generations precluded their presence in the original population (ROBERTSON 1978; SANTIAGO 1989). Our data also excluded contamination during the experiment. All individuals examined were homozygous for the sepia recessive marker, and all lines responding to selection were shown to carry different mutations, therefore excluding contamination between these lines.

The balancer chromosome stocks used have been classified as M strains for the P-M hybrid dysgenesis system. However, the type of the stock contributing the sepia marker is unknown. In this respect, the results of the gonadal sterility tests were inconclusive as they only allowed the selected lines assayed to be classified as pseudo-M or weak P. In principle, it is possible that the base population presented some level of P factor activity and, consequently, the mutations detected in the experiment might be attributed to an increased mutation rate due to transposition during the formation of the isogenic line. Nevertheless, no dysgenic symptoms were observed in this period. In addition, no response to divergent selection was detected in the earlier generations. Furthermore, the estimates of the mutational heritability were similar to those previously reported for M-type populations. Therefore, our results are compatible with spontaneous mutation in M strains.

Our experimental design preferentially detected mutations of large effect on the selected trait, which tend to show pleiotropic deleterious fitness effects.

TABLE 5
Summary of information on mutants found in selected lines

Line	Final response	Response to		Mutant			
		Relaxed selection	Reverse selection	Chromosome	Frequency	Effect	Action
2-	-0.77* ± 0.16 ^a	Yes	Yes	II	0.33* ± 0.02	-0.67* ± 0.19 ^a	(lethal)
3-	-0.75* ± 0.14 ^a	Yes	Yes	III	0.21* ± 0.02	0.13 ± 0.25 ^a	(lethal)
11- ^c	-0.60* ± 0.07 ^b	No	No	II	Fixed	-0.89 ± 0.67 ^b	Additive
11- ^d	-0.48* ± 0.11 ^b	Yes					
13-	-0.44* ± 0.08 ^a	Yes	Yes	III	0.42* ± 0.02	-0.62* ± 0.25 ^a	(lethal)
A-	-0.81* ± 0.06 ^a	Yes	Yes	II	0.32* ± 0.02	-0.62* ± 0.19 ^a	(lethal)
C-	-2.01* ± 0.12 ^b	Yes	Yes	III		-2.10* ± 0.52 ^b	Complete recessive ^e
15+	0.59* ± 0.04 ^b	No	Yes				
B+	0.37* ± 0.06 ^b	No	Yes				

^a Deviation from control in phenotypic standard deviation units (males).

^b Deviation from control in phenotypic standard deviation units (both sexes).

^c First mutation.

^d Second mutation.

^e Semilethal.

* $P < 0.05$.

TABLE 6

Percent gonadal sterility (GS) in *n* offspring from crosses between tester lines (Canton-S and Harwich) and selected synthetics showing extreme responses in opposite directions

Line	× Canton-S females		× Harwich males	
	<i>n</i>	GS	<i>n</i>	GS
Harwich	43	100		
(2- × 3-)	36	17	38	5
(A- × C-)	43	7	41	11
(15+ × B+)	57	3	49	22
Control	36	4	29	7

First, both the magnitude of the environmental variance of the trait and the duration of selection set a lower limit on the resolution. Mutations with an effect smaller than 0.2 phenotypic standard deviations will be practically impossible to detect in any single line until some of them accumulate. In turn, this will require more than 20 generations of selection (HILL 1985; HILL and RASBASH 1986). This is in agreement with the stability of the variance of the means of the 32 lines not showing a significant response to selection, observed throughout the experiment. Second, the fixation probability of an additive mutation with an effect of 0.2 phenotypic standard deviations will be small for both effective sizes considered. In practice, this probability will be substantially lower when a major mutation is also segregating in the same line, as the selection pressure exerted on minor genes will thus be correspondingly diminished. In the third place, mutations with an appreciable heterozygous effect will have a higher chance of being picked up by selection. This agrees with the observation that the only recessive mutation detected in this experiment also had the largest effect of any mutation.

A significant response to selection has been detected in six downward selected lines. In three cases, it could be totally attributed to a single lethal (lines 2- and 13-) or semilethal (line C-) mutation with a pleiotropic effect on bristle score. Another lethal mutant was likewise shown to be responsible for most of the response achieved in line A-. A further lethal at high frequency was found in line 3- but it had no effect on bristles. Notwithstanding, a sudden response was observed in this line lasting only 1-2 generations. Thus, it is very likely that only one mutation with an effect on the trait was involved, originally linked to the lethal and later losing its association. Finally, the response observed in line 11- can be ascribed to two different mutations. The one appearing first, showing additive action for bristles, was quasineutral and reached fixation before the second (deleterious) mutation occurred. Little can be said concerning the genetic changes experienced by the two lines significantly responding to upward selection, other than that they seem to be due to quasineutral mutations in both instances.

The joint distribution of mutant effects on the selected trait and fitness was markedly asymmetrical, since most mutations decreased both the number of bristles and the fitness of their carriers. The asymmetry can be quantified either by the proportion of mutations of negative effect among all mutations found (7/9) or by the final downward response relative to the total divergence (85%) (KEIGHTLEY and HILL 1987). Of course, the two procedures will not give equivalent results in all cases. In principle, this asymmetry cannot be attributed to the specific genotype of the base population, since its mean bristle number was lower than those commonly reported for unselected populations maintained in the same conditions (CA-

BALLERO and LÓPEZ-FANJUL 1987; LÓPEZ-FANJUL, GUERRA and GARCIA 1989).

In addition, the joint distribution is expected to be highly leptokurtic, since the effects of the observed mutations on bristles and fitness were large (KEIGHTLEY and HILL 1987). Lethals with a substantial pleiotropic effect on abdominal bristles have often been detected in selected lines and, in some cases, they have been ascribed to specific loci such as *scabrous* (JONES, FRANKHAM and BARKER 1968), *bobbed* (FRANKHAM, BRISCOE and NURTHEN 1980), and *scute* (YOO 1980). Major genes affecting quantitative traits have also been identified in other experimental and domestic animals, resulting in a leptokurtic distribution of gene effects (see PIPER and SHRIMPSON 1989 for a review).

With respect to dominant gene action on bristle score, our data are restricted to only the two nonlethal mutations. These were the quasineutral mutation in line 11-, showing additive gene action, and the semilethal in line C-, presenting complete recessivity. No evidence has been found of epistatic gene action between the mutations decreasing bristle score. Unfortunately, nothing can be said about the gene action of the mutations responsible for the upward response.

A distinction should be made between the original distribution of mutant effects and the distribution for genes segregating in populations after natural selection has acted. Abdominal bristle number does not appear to be causally related to fitness, *i.e.*, it is a "peripheral" trait (ROBERTSON 1955), but pleiotropic fitness effects of alleles affecting bristle number have been demonstrated. Our data show similar fitness effects. Therefore, the variation observed in natural populations, although operationally neutral (LATTER and ROBERTSON 1962; LÓPEZ-FANJUL, GUERRA and GARCIA 1989), cannot be solely explained as the result of balancing drift and mutation forces, as selection is also playing a role. This observation casts doubts on the validity of comparing the heritabilities of the so-called peripheral traits estimated in natural populations with their predicted equilibrium value obtained from drift-mutations models.

Previous results from artificial selection experiments agree with our findings. Operationally, a distinction should be made between the short- and the long-term response achieved in lines of a given effective size. The first could be defined as that which is mainly dependent on the genetic variation already present in the base population, essentially additive and quasineutral since deleterious mutations will be screened by natural selection. The second will be increasingly influenced by new variation originating from mutation during the course of selection, a considerable proportion of the mutations showing pleiotropic unfavorable effects on fitness. The duration of the two periods is closely related to the distribution

of mutant effects on the selected trait: the larger these effects the sooner mutations will appreciably affect the response. In earlier generations, the decline in fitness experienced by the selected lines will not be large and it will be due to inbreeding rather than to selection itself. This has been usually confirmed by the small fraction of the response achieved that becomes lost after a subsequent period of relaxation (CLAYTON and ROBERTSON 1957; LATTER and ROBERTSON 1962; FRANKHAM, JONES and BARKER 1968). If selection is continued, deleterious mutations will be incorporated and plateaus will be reached, characterized by the antagonism between natural and artificial selection forces. Experimentally, this has been often found. Thus, between one-quarter (LATTER and ROBERTSON 1962; FRANKHAM, JONES and BARKER 1968) and three-quarters (CLAYTON and ROBERTSON 1957; YOO 1980) of the lines selected for abdominal bristle number in previous experiments carried at least one lethal at maximum frequency with a large effect on that trait. None of these lethals were found segregating in the base population when attempts were made to find them, and in one case (YOO 1980) some of them were unambiguously shown to be new mutations that occurred during selection. In those experiments in which divergent selection was carried out (CLAYTON and ROBERTSON 1957; LATTER and ROBERTSON 1962), the decline in reproductive capacity experienced in the long term was greater in the lines selected for low bristle number. This result agrees with the asymmetry of the joint distribution of mutant effects on bristles and fitness found in the present experiment.

Once the equilibrium variance has been reached, the response to artificial selection due to new mutation is expected to be a function of the selection intensity, the effective population size, and the mean square of the effects of mutants affecting the trait in the direction of selection. Therefore, when lines are selected in the same direction and with the same proportion, the largest response will be achieved by those selected at the greatest effective size. In our situation this implies $L+ > S+ > S- > L-$, in agreement with the pattern found from generation 10. With only mutation and drift (LYNCH and HILL 1986), the number of generations needed to reach 90% of the equilibrium variance will be 27 and 140 for lines *S* and *L*, respectively. These periods are smaller with selection and for mutations of large effect. However, it is quite possible that *L* lines had not yet reached the equilibrium variance by the end of the experiment.

The expected response to selection is highly dependent on the distribution of mutant effects. Asymmetry will confound the prediction of the response in each direction, but it will not affect the divergence between lines of the same effective size selected in

opposite directions. In our case, all mutations detected had a large effect and no indication of minor mutations contributing to the observed response was found. In agreement with theory (HILL 1982b), the divergence between the $L+$ and $L-$ lines was five times larger than that between the $S+$ and $S-$ lines, the L lines having an effective size five times larger than the S lines. Nevertheless, the magnitude of the divergence was only 28% of that expected for both types of lines under the hypothesis of all genes having large effects. This prediction has been obtained under the assumptions of additive gene action within and between loci, linkage equilibrium and neutrality. It also depends on an *a priori* estimate of the mutational heritability of 10^{-3} , usually suggested for *Drosophila* bristle traits (discussed below). Departures from additivity will not be important as long as the mutations involved have an effect on the heterozygote (HILL 1982a), the only exception to this being the semilethal mutation found in line $C-$. In general, the influence of linkage on the response will be small (KEIGHTLEY and HILL 1983) and it certainly is so in our case, since the responses observed in most lines can each be reasonably attributed to a single mutation. The choice of values of i and N entering the prediction equation will not significantly affect the outcome. First, the expected and observed intensities of selection were very close to each other. Second, the experimental design ensures that the effective size of the L lines will be five times larger than that of the S lines, even if we cannot be certain of the latter. In conclusion, neutrality appears to be the only assumption violated by the data and this can seriously distort the predictions. When a selected line reaches a plateau determined by the antagonism between natural and artificial selection, previous response to artificial selection will be much less than expected when natural selection is not acting (NICHOLAS and ROBERTSON 1980). In our experiment, all but one of the mutants decreasing bristle number had deleterious pleiotropic effects and most of them were lethals or semilethals. The maximum frequency in a selected line that can be attained by a single recessive lethal with an effect on the selected trait is one-third. Accordingly, the expected response should be reduced to an analogous fraction of that calculated for neutral additive genes yielding the same mutational variance per generation.

Different estimates of the mutational heritability of abdominal bristle score have been calculated by assuming that all mutants involved had either small or large effects. If major mutations occur, the first assumption will result in overestimates, particularly so in the L lines where the influence of drift on the response to selection will be less important. In fact, the estimate for the L lines obtained under the infinitesimal model was significantly larger than that for

the S lines. In practice, all responses observed can be wholly attributed to major mutants. Consequently, the mutational heritability estimated under this hypothesis should be closer to the true value and, besides, independent of population size. In agreement with this, very similar estimates were obtained for the L and S lines ($(0.31-0.35) \times 10^{-3}$). Mutational heritabilities have been calculated from the cumulative responses to selection and, consequently, their validity is subject to the same restrictions mentioned above when comparing expected and observed responses. Of those, the lack of neutrality appears to be the only important departure from the model's assumptions. The antagonism between natural and artificial selection will lead to underestimates of the mutational heritabilities and, in fact, those found in the present work were smaller than the average value (10^{-3}) obtained in previous experiments (HILL 1982b; LYNCH 1988).

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