

9th June, 1948.

Dear Mather,

I am now returning your paper on the Analysis of Extinction Times which makes a very pretty addition to the series of forms useful in biological assay.

It looks as though a greatly improved decision in experimentation of this kind would come from using a count of colonies or ^{agut} plots in place of presence and absence.

What is particularly useful about your paper is that it draws a parrallel with previously known methods I am sure that it is always important to emphasise this by setting out the work in similar form, so that anyone who has used one of these methods can easily use another. This I tried to do in the introduction to Statistical Tables and found later that we had quite accidentally taken the wind out of the sails of a chap called Berkson who was engaged in raising a storm in a teacup by claiming that what he calls 'logits', which he thought he had invented were much more accurate than probits.

To many readers, therefore, your little table on p. 10 puts the whole matter very nicely in a nutshell.

Did you notice that your constant, given on p. 17 for the most informative value of p is the same as $e^{-\hat{m}}$ of the Design of Experiment. I did not notice the identity until I came to work out the new constant accurately as you will see I have done on the back of your graph Fig. 2.

I suppose your paper will go into the Biometrics
Journal.

Yours sincerely,