

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
BIOLOGICAL AND MEDICAL SCIENCES

PROPOSAL RATING SHEET

| <u>No.</u> | <u>Title</u> | <u>Investigator</u> | <u>Institution</u> |
|------------|--|---------------------|--------------------|
| B-3271 | Cytogenetic studies in the genus <u>Solanum</u> | Paul Grun | Pa St U |

The University of Wisconsin is host to a large collection of Solanum species that have been introduced and are being kept as a source of genetic variation for practical breeding studies. A considerable investment has already been made in this project from USDA funds, but this agency is notoriously reluctant to invest in fundamental biological research. My colleague, Prof. Hougas, who is in charge of the Solanum Introduction project is quite enthusiastic about encouraging other workers who are interested and qualified to pursue the fundamental opportunities that the collection allows, and which will in turn be able to contribute basic information that the practical breeders can take advantage of. In spite of the considerable effort that is now expended ~~on the~~ on the practical aspects, there is surprisingly little fundamental cytogenetic work on the Solanums ~~in~~ in this country, the nearest parallel being Swaminathan's studies (now from New Delhi, India). Dr. Hougas is well acquainted with Dr. Grun, and assures me of his abilities in the necessary fields, as well as of the cooperation of the Wisconsin group. The potato material is of especial interest because of its karyotypic simplicity on one hand, and the prevalence of polyploidy in the cultivated varieties on the other. There is not much original or new in the concepts or approaches here, but the project fills such a definite and precise gap that it should be rated Highly Meritorious.

Score 1
From 5 (low) to 1 (high)

Signature _____