

of cells and virus, reduced requirements for culture medium and labour and availability of large surface area for cell growth.

The monovalent vaccines of FMD virus types O, A, C and Asia-1 produced by using Cytodex-grown BHK21 cells protected guinea-pigs against homologous virulent virus challenge with high C-index values of 3.83, 4.10, 4.00 and 3.12, respectively. None of the vaccines showed any adverse effects in cattle. This was supported by the work of Meignier *et al*¹⁰ who produced potent FMD vaccines for pigs using microcarrier-grown IB-RS-2 cells.

In conclusion, Cytodex-grown BHK21 cells in roller bottles supported production of high-titred FMD virus and good quality vaccines. The use of Cytodex in stirred culture permitted easy production of anchorage-dependent BHK21 cells and FMD virus in compact vessel. Thus microcarrier cell culture technique is a useful alternative method to conventional monolayer cell culture system used for FMD virus vaccine production.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

DISTINGUISHED SCIENTISTS AWARD OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES ALLAHABAD

Five distinguished scientists of India have been presented with the 'Distinguished scientists award' of the National Academy of Sciences of Allahabad. The recipients of the awards are: 1. Dr Sushil Kumar, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi; 2. Prof. P. S. Ramakrishnan, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi; 3. Dr George Joseph, Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad; 4. Dr

Hridayanath, Director of Defence Instruments Research and Development Laboratory, Dehradun; 5. Dr Kunthala Jayaraman, Professor of Biotechnology, Anna University, Madras.

The Awards were sponsored by the Scientific Instrument Company, Allahabad to mark its Platinum Jubilee Year (1911-1986). The Awards consist of a citation and Rs. 10,000 each in cash.