



ESTHER LEDERBERG



Esther Lederberg was a microbiologist that made major contributions to the field of microbial genetics. Her most well known discovery was lambda phage, in 1950, which is a bacterial virus in *E. coli*. This phage is used widely for studying the regulation of genes and how DNA rearranges. While studying the lambda phage, she also discovered the fertility factor F which plays a role in transferring genetic material between bacteria. She also developed a useful method to replicate bacteria colonies onto additional petri dishes called replica plating.

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