

VITAMINS

TIME TO GIVE BLACKLEY THE CREDIT HE DESERVES

21.09.2007

I am currently doing some historical studies if the vitamin hypothesis fits also the temporal relationship of allergy prevalence. [While](#) ordering [RKI files for my next trip](#) to the Berlin document center, I found that farming and lower allergy sensitization is known much longer than I anticipated. Here is Blackley CH. Experimental Researches on the Causes and Nature of Cattarhus Aestivus (Hay-fever or Hay-asthma). London: Balliere, Tindall and Cox, 1873:

190 *Experimental Researches on Hay-Fever:*

§ 304. These statistics of the occupations of hay-fever patients bring out prominently the very curious circumstance that the persons who are most subjected to the action of pollen belong to a class which furnishes the fewest cases of the disorder, namely, the farming class. This remarkable fact may be accounted for in two different ways: it may, on the one hand, be due to the absence of the predisposition which mental culture generates; or, on the other hand, it may be that in this disease there is a possibility of a patient being rendered insusceptible to the action of pollen by continued exposure to its influence. If

The farming observation therefore does not go [back to 1989](#) but to [1873](#), yea, yea.