

fruit is gone now; the birds have been cleaning it up rapidly.

I had an inquiry for 30 trees for a hedge in a garden, and I recommended "Clark"; but on looking over a letter from you, I noticed you suggested "Osa" might make a good hedge plant. My own idea of "Osa" is that it seems more upright and pyramidal in shape. I like "Clark" because it has so many stems from the ground, a good characteristic for a hedge plant.

By the way, Ex-President Lowell left his property in Mashpee to the Trustees of Public Reservations. On this land are some fine hollies which will now be taken care of.

Wilfred Wheeler

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March 20, 1943

I am glad you recommended "Clark" for a hedge. It is the only plant we have in sufficiently large quantities to sell for hedges. While "Osa" may be a good hedge plant, I prefer to recommend "Clark" at present. It has fine foliage which resists wind damage remarkably well; however, it does not hold its berries as persistently as do many other varieties. I have seen the ground under the parent tree covered with dropped berries early in winter. Many of our plants are well berries now.

The cuttings which we put in before the middle of September have done very well, but many of those we put in later have done poorly. I took about 150 cuttings of "St. Mary" in November and regret to report that they look very badly. I doubt if I got a half dozen plants from them.

Elizabeth C. White

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March 29, 1968

I have an order for 18 plants, 15" - 20", of the variety "Clark", and I should like to get them as soon as possible; also one plant of "Griscom" about 2' and a couple of others to go to Kentucky. I shall send you the order as soon as I know the prices. The plants of "Clark" are to be shipped here, for I want them on a landscape order for one side of a hedge which will be completed later. Do you have a 15" - 18" plant of "St. Mary"?

I have received a number of letters about the everbearing holly. Apparently everyone wants it.

I am not surprised to learn about your poor luck with "St. Mary". I find the same trouble with "St. Ann"; but this winter I have been working with them at the Experimental Station in Waltham, and we have found a way of rooting "St. Ann" in six weeks at about 80%. The method uses 1/2 peat and 1/2 sand in a closed frame in the greenhouse; the frame is heated to 70°, that is the medium; the top is somewhat warmer. The cuttings were taken over a period of three months, starting in November, and were treated with Hormodin #3. We have tried slanting the cuttings and standing them up; it does not make much difference, they root either way. The interesting thing is that they root; even the cuttings taken in January rooted by this method. I have never been able to get more than 5 to 10% of "St. Ann" cuttings to root in the open bed. While the method may be slightly more expensive, the whole greenhouse would not have to be heated warm, only the frame; and this could be done with the same pipes which are used to heat the house, the heat being confined under the bed.

The winter has been severe and there seems to be a lot of killings back on more or less tender plants, and in particular the late growth of the hollies. I am not surprised at this, for there really should not be late growth. (Magnolias and gardenias came through the winter well.)

I have decided to operate the farm to the limit of our capacity, and this is not much, for I cannot muster more than three helpers.

Forgot to say the plants of "Clark" should be balled and burlapped.

Wilfred Wheeler

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April 6, 1943

We can supply 18 "Clark", 18" to 24" high, at 75¢ each; one "Griscom", 2' high, at \$1.50; and two other selected plants of the same size at 75¢ each; making a total of \$16.50. We do not have any plants of "St. Mary" to sell; the largest are only 6" to 8" high. I took the larger shoots last November for cuttings. It will be at least two years before we have any of these plants for sale; and if an accident occurs, it will be later.

I am interested in your method of safeguarding the rooting of holly cuttings and shall consider this method for next winter, if labor conditions are such that we can put in a considerable number of cuttings.

At your convenience, I shall be interested in receiving a report on the New Jersey hollies which were sent to you last spring.

Elizabeth C. White

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August 12, 1943

I suppose you will be starting on holly cuttings soon, that is, if you are going to put any in the greenhouse this winter. I am wondering whether we shall be able to get coal, for there seems to be such a shortage. I am trying a few cuttings in an outdoor frame to see if they will root in this sort of thing. Mr. Nearing says they will, and that it is easy to root them. My only objection is the length of time it requires. Have you tried this method?

When you take cuttings in August, do you make any special effort to keep the greenhouse cool other than by screens? Do you have bottom heat? And do you use hormones as with later cuttings? If I could get some cuttings started now, they might be rooted