

it does in the hormone used and the amount of heat applied to the bed underneath. A batch of cuttings from "St. Ann", which were put in the medium on November 13th, had roots eight inches long in only four weeks, and this is the most difficult tree to root. I shall be able to tell you more about this later.

I am much disturbed about one of the holly sections where there are some very fine trees. The owner has decided to clear a part of it for pasture. This means he will remove some of the largest trees. It makes me ill to think of these beautiful trees being destroyed - but we can't get labor to move them. I suppose with all the destruction going on in the world, the loss of a tree should not be mourned too much.

Wilfred Wheeler

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March 6, 1943

On returning to the farm after spending a couple of months near Boston, I found that the cuttings have not done very well - these are the ones I put in last fall. I am afraid that they were not warm enough, since we were running the greenhouse quite low. I am sure that hollies do better in the winter when the sand is about 70°. I am doubtful whether it will be advisable to run the farm this season, for all the help which I have had in the past has gone to the factories or to other high-paying jobs and I am reduced to one man who has been here for 15 years. Charles may be here this summer before he goes into the Army, but that rests with the draft board. Dick is deferred till summer, but he may be taken before then. I cannot understand why the farmer has not been considered in all this muddle, but I am afraid that this would be asking too much of the men in Washington.

I have been hoping that the ground would thaw early this spring, because I have several orders for good-sized hollies from the woods, and I wanted to move them before our spring work started. I have never seen so much fruit on the trees as they had last fall; some trees were actually bent over with the weight of the fruit. Most of the

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

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
