

March 4, 1941

My dear Panse,

I have just received your letter of December 26th, which has, therefore, really been rather quick as these things go at present.

I think in general you would be on the right lines in choosing F_1 crosses of good performance from parents having good crossing value, for later selection. The fact that the multiple heterozygotes, or, more properly, many of the multiple heterozygotes, stand high, is of value later, as it implies that plants selected for their high values ^{will,} more often than otherwise, be heterozygous.

It is also, I think, an advantage that the environment in which the selection is carried out shall be that of a crop of high performance, since this in most plants will differ materially from from the environment produced by less satisfactory varieties.

There are a good many cases where selection from a good F_1 have failed to ^{produce} any true breeding strain as good as the F_1 ; but I do not know any case in which there is any strong evidence that homozygous strains could not have been selected by working on a larger scale, or with more efficient methods of selection, at least as good as, or better than, the multiple heterozygous parent.

Yours sincerely,