

August 21, 1941

My dear Salisbury,

Thanks for your letter of August 20th. On reading your typescript through - and I have read only parts of it at all critically - one point which occurs to me is that I should have been glad to hear a lot more about the dimorphic seeds produced by some plants you mention. This seems to me a very remarkable adaptation, and it is possible that, in some cases, you have an indication of the contrasted habitats in which the two modal classes are most successful. The partition by weight of the total seed output between the two types of seed could, and perhaps has been, ascertained, in addition to the ratio of the modal weights. Are the two types of seed produced by the same type of flowers, or on differently modified flowers?

Another point concerns the mast years of woodland trees. Would it be possible to list the years of high seed production, say during the present century, for a number of these species? One would like to know whether there is evidence that these years tend to coincide for different species, or in the same species whether they coincide in different parts of the country. How much is known about all this?

Yours sincerely,