

Smilax

14/10/63 Discontinued one small left and one small unknown pot. Trimmed up four remaining small pots and cut dwarf shoots in large pots back to ground. A total of seven shoots are doing well 1 to 2 feet high.

The roots in two discontinued pots were waterlogged and rotten. Apparently this plant thrives best on soil only damp and not wet, also too much fern packing was included in pots. Some of roots show bits of sand.

Probably this plant should have been in a mixture of half soil and half sand. Probably the rotted fern packing made soil acid.

20/10/63 Dug up all but one large pot. The roots in three were rotten and very soft and watery. Probably died from too much water. The fourth had a few good tubers which are hard and woody and bright inside. It was sending up one shoot. This tuber was replanted in a small pot only damp. The extra dirt recovered was used in fifteen small plastic pots to plant beans.

28/10/63 One of left banded vines has reached top of its 3ft dowl. Built an extension to six feet. Vine got damaged about 2" below top in the process. Tied in place on the extension. It died.

10/12/63 Several more new shoots starting up.

27/12/63 all pots doing well, added 50cc ammonium nitrate solution to each.

Asparagus Asparagoides

- 15/7/63 Large pots sending up aerial shoots from old stalk butts. Small pots sending up shoots from roots. These look like asparagus spears about $\frac{1}{16}$ " to $\frac{1}{8}$ " diameter.
- 22/7/63 Aerial shoots 1" to 4" long with leaves. Root shoots 0 to 1" long. No leaves. a few small white flowers appear now on stalks left in large pots.
- 2/8/63 Aerial shoots 3" to 7" long with good leaves. Very pliable shoots. Tied up four on stakes $\frac{1}{4}$ " diameter. Root shoots stiff like spears & devoid of leaves. Tied up three (3" to 6" long) on $\frac{1}{4}$ " stakes.
- Old vines have flowered & are producing a few small pods.
- 19/8/63 Several stalks now 10" high but no signs of twinning. Untied all stalks which were tied on 2nd and let go free. Two tall spears were tied to stakes without any attempt at twinning.
- 22/8/63 One stalk has made $1\frac{1}{2}$ turns like right hand screw thread.
- 5/9/63 Several stalks beginning to twine. Mostly right handed.
- 19/9/63 Some stalks going each way now.
- 7/10/63 Two stalks in one pot have voluntarily changed direction. One changed right to left and one left to right.

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20/8/64 No attention except watering has been given to these plants. They have grown up to a large tangle about 3 feet high. Some are flowering and producing a few green berries.