

Thomas Mink Ranch

17457 FILER AVENUE  
DETROIT 12, MICHIGAN

AIR MAIL



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Pvt. Edward J. Thomas  
ASN 36576155  
Service Co., 153d Inf.  
APO 948, c/o PM,  
Seattle, Washington



# Thomas Mink Ranch

17457 FILER AVENUE

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

TEL: TW 1-2553

YUKON BLACK  
SILVERBLU PLATINUMSILVER SABLE  
BLACK-CROSS SNOW

March 5, 1944

Pvt. Edward J. Thomas  
ASN 36576155  
Service Co., 153d Inf.  
APO 948, c/o PM, Seattle, Wash.

Dear Ed:

Had intended to write you from Atlanta but never was down there long enough to have enough time except to write a letter to Mom & Issie, which Mom sent in her last letter. This letter explains most of the details of my trip up to day I left for home. Coming back we had reservations all the way--a sleeper up to Cincinnati and a parlor car the rest of the way. The trip back took about 23 hours which is an average of about 25 m/hr.

This trip was quite unexpected. There was some talk about sending me down there for some time, but it was postponed so often that I ceased thinking about it until my boss notified me about two days before the trip.

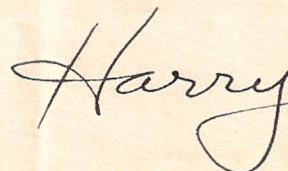
Perhaps the biggest news besides the fact that the war is still going on is the report on the platinum mink pelt sales. I am enclosing Gladfelter's letter about the sales. The Price of \$136.66 per pelt is way beyond my estimate of \$75.00, which you believed was slightly optimistic. I will have to revise the estimates on our share of the pelts to the following:

4 Black Males . . . . .	\$120
$\frac{1}{2}$ " Female . . . . .	120
8 Platinum Males . . . . .	1088
8 Halfblood Males . . . . .	240
17 " Females . . . . .	425
$1\frac{1}{2}$ Platinum Female . . . . .	<u>204</u>
Total . . . . .	\$2089
Breed stock purchased . . . . .	<u>1200</u>
Total Cash Income . . . . .	\$ 889

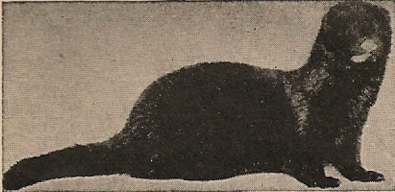
This estimate may be about \$100 too high.

I am going to write a letter to Woodall asking him for his price on a bred female black mink. Mom and I thought it would be a good idea to have at least one mink on the Thomas Mink Ranch for the duration. I will let you know what I hear.

So long,







Location: Mile West of Swanton on  
Wales Road and Route So. 20

# VALLEYWOOD MINK FARM

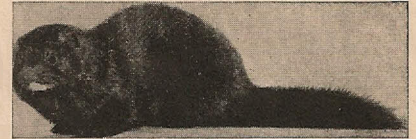
Bank Reference—Farmers' and Merchants' Deposit Co., Swanton, Ohio

Extra Dark ♦ Prize Winning

Kobuk, Yukon and Eastern

*Character Mink*

Silverblu ♦ Silver Sable ♦ Black Cross Snow



Leading Prize Winners Each Year  
1932 to 1941 inclusive

R. F. D. No. 1, Swanton, Ohio, January 29, 1944

Mr. Harry Thomas  
17457 Piler Avenue  
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Friend;

I have been going to write you for the past week but didn't get around to it before. I was in New York City for the Silverblu pelt sale on the 19th. This sale was a big surprise to everybody. They sold from \$66.00 to \$265.00 per pelt. Just one bundle sold at \$265.00, these were a selected bundle of Larry Moores. The others sold from \$185.00 down to \$66.00. Those less than \$100.00 were mostly cull pelts. Our pelts sold for an average of \$136.66 per pelt. Not bad, eh?

This sale sure made breeding stock scarce, no one wants to sell now. I should have not pelted so many females, but on the other hand I eliminated the ones that were not so clear color so it may have been the best policy.

I sold my dark mink also, They brought an average of about \$30.00 per pelt. I have not figured out yet just what your dark pelts came to. I held 10 pure and 10 half blood females for you boys. Also 6 dark females to mate to your Black Cross and Silver Sable male. I pelted one dark female ~~sawd~~, the one that was sick when you were here died shortly afterward. So it leaves you four adult dark females and two kit females and the Silverblus. I also held four Silverblu males for your females.

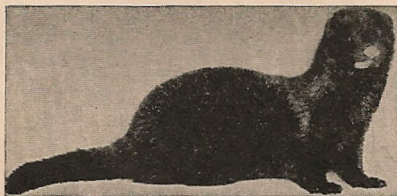
I presume you intended to apply the pelt money on the Black Cross, is that correct? If so I will figure it out when the check arrives and write you then. How is your brother getting along, do you hear from him often?

Sincerely

P.S. The  $\frac{1}{2}$  blood pelts haven't been sold yet.

*Maurice Gladfelter*





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Leading Prize Winners Each Year  
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R. F. D. No. 1, Swanton, Ohio, March 6, 1944

Mr. Harry Thomas  
17457 Filer Avenue  
Detroit 12, Michigan

Dear Mr. Thomas;

The Auction Company was a little longer than their usual custom in making payment on the Silverblu pelts and we just received the check for them Saturday. The payment for the dark pelts came in February but we applied your share on those on the Black Cross male.

In the dark mink we kept all the females for breeders. You had one adult female which died and was of no pelt value. You may recall seeing this mink as she was in poor condition for quite a while. You had four kit males and two adult males which were pelted. Your pelts averaged \$32.00 each and with 5% selling commission off these came to \$182.40.

The ~~dark~~ Silverblu pelts averaged \$139.00 each but there was some extra charges for those. The Silverblu Association got 2% selling commission so that made a total of 7 % selling commission and then there was charge for dressing. So the net price received for these was \$128.97 per pelt. - Still not a bad price for one mink pelt, is it? As I figure it you had  $8\frac{1}{2}$  pelts and your return for these is \$1096.24.

The Half-blood pelts, as I think I told you in previous letter have not been sold. ~~I am holding them until later in the summer. There was a total of 40 $\frac{1}{2}$  pelts and we~~  
You owed us \$795.00 and we are sending you a check for \$467.64 which we believe to be correct.

Just to keep the records straight there is what I am holding for you for breeders for this season;

10 pure Silverblu females  
10 halfblood Silverblu females  
7 dark females

5 pure Silverblu males  
1 Silver Sable male  
1 Black Cross male.

We received your last letter today. Yes the pelt seals arrived in time. Did I tell you that I had to buy a new Sealer as they could not send me a die to fit in the one you had. They wrote me that I would have to return the machine to have a new die put in and that they probably would ruin the die that was in it when they removed it. So, I thought it best to get a new machine.

Be glad to have you drive down whenever you can.

Sincerely

*M. R. Gladfelter*

MEMBERS OF MINK BREEDER'S ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES