



The Pipeline

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Why This Title ? Because pipe-tree is an old, old common name for *Syringa vulgaris*, which according to R.C.A. Prior ("On the Popular Names of British Plants" 2nd edition, 1870) comes "from its branches having a large pith that is easily bored out to make pipe-sticks, whence also its Latin name from the Greek". Or if you prefer, Douglas Bartrum ("Lilac and Laburnum", 1959) says that the name *Syringa* comes from the Greek legend of *Syrinx*, a nymph, who "when pursued by Pan, was changed into a reed; and from this reed Pan made the first flute of pan-pipes".

But mostly because a pipeline is open at both ends until joined to a source at either end, or a utilization device at either end, which is precisely what this publication is intended to do - transmit news and ideas, hopefully from you, the members, to you, the members - either way of the pipeline.

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WHAT'S NEW ? The Board of Directors meeting was held on Sunday, Sept. 22, 1974, Pres. Robert Clark presiding. With only 5 members present at the Morton Arboretum, Lisle, ILL., this was more a friendly discussion than business meeting, but lasted 4 (count 'em) hours !

Accomplishments: Dates for the annual meeting at the Morton Arboretum were set for Friday and Saturday, May 16 and 17, 1975. Mark these on your calendar NOW.

Programme for that meeting was discussed, chairman Walter Eickhorst reporting on facilities and possibilities. A list of possible speakers was compiled, more than needed, but suggestions came from all present. Field trips were discussed - wait 'til you see the goodies in store for you ! Last year's annual meeting chairman, Charles Holetich, gave Mr. Eickhorst helpful information.

Society committee chairmen appointed; nominating (for a slate of 8 new directors), membership, awards and, almost but not quite, budget.

Fr. Fiala gave an excellent report on the status of various publications and promised faithfully to meet the following schedule :
Fall issue of "Lilacs" - Oct.30, Winter issue - Jan.30, Spring issue - Mar.30, (pre-convention issue). "Survey" lacks only financing to be published.

There was the usual discussion with no conclusions, of how to change the by-laws, and the only female present volunteered to edit and publish this "newsletter" one a month for 1 year.

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AFTERMATH: After all board members except your ed. had departed (she was photographing trees), who should appear but Mrs. Lourene Wishart. This remarkable woman had judged the rose show for the International Rose Society in Chicago, gone to a football game in Wis. and motored down for the Board meeting, arriving hours late and missing it. She said it would take 3 hours to give all details, so it must have been a horrendous journey !

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FERTILIZING LILACS: Work done largely at Penn. State University on fertilization of fruit trees, particularly apples, which form fruit buds before winter, has shown that autumn fertilization, after the leaves fall but before the soil freezes, is best. After leaf fall soil is still warm and roots continue to grow, so nutrients from fertilizer are stored in plants for use in early spring. In springtime soil temperature is often so low that plants are not fully functioning and fertilizer nutrients may be leached, so are lost until after soil warms, too late to do much good.

As you know, lilac buds are already formed by autumn. Why wouldn't fall fertilization work as well with lilacs as it does with fruit trees ? Members in the Northern states, where springs are usually wet and cold, should try this and report results to this publication.

What type of fertilizer ? Just ordinary 10-6-4 commercial fertilizer commonly used for woody plants.

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More next month ! Meanwhile, send me your news or your views.