



The Pipeline

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DO YOU HAVE A LILAC "WANT LIST"? At the recent convention you learned that ILS is embarking on a project to bring rare and hard-to-find lilac cultivars back into circulation once again. So, in order to decide which lilacs are indeed scarce or unobtainable, the Propagation Committee needs to know which lilacs are wanted today. Take a minute and write down your most cherished lilac wants. Send the list to Robert B. Clark, Cattle Landing Road, Meredith NH 03253 right away, please!

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REGISTRATION OF NEW LILAC CULTIVARS--by Freek Vrugtman

The 3rd draft of Notes for the Guidance of International Registration Authorities for Cultivated Plants (June, 1974) states that I.R.A.s should require that names submitted for registration be accompanied by the following minimum information and material:

1--The name and address of the originator of the cultivar, the person or persons who named and described the cultivar, the introducer or introducers to cultivation of the cultivar and the introducer or introducers to commerce of the cultivar or their assignee of propagation rights (if applicable).

2--If a cultivar has been named and described previously, but not registered, the name of the person who originally named and/or described it, together with a full reference to the date and place of publication.

3--The original name if the name submitted for registration is a commercial synonym or translation into another tongue.

4--The parentage, when known, together with date of raising.

5--Particulars of patenting; trademarking; plant breeders' rights; and testing in recognized trials, if applicable.

6--Awards received, with dates.

7--A description in a language using Latin alphabet, including, where applicable, classification and details of color (with reference to color chart used). In cases of languages other than those using Latin alphabet, the name of the cultivar should be transliterated into English.

8--A listing of differential characters between the cultivar being registered and any closely related cultivars, if practicable.

9--A photograph, painting or drawing.

10--Where known, relationship of the cultivar to a species or hybrid group should be stated.

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Editor's comment: When a garden writer to whom your editor had just handed a reference book printed in German commented, "but I don't read German", your ed replied, "but you can read the Latin names for they are all in Arabic letters". This is the first time she has ever seen a reference to a Latin alphabet, for we do use Arabic letters and so did the Romans, whose language was Latin.

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BRINGING BACK WORN OUT LILACS When lilacs become bloomless it's time to do something to bring them back to bearing. There are several ways of doing this. The most widely known is to count the number of thick, old stems from the ground, divide by 3 and cut that many (1/3 of the total) stems off at ground level at this time of year. New stems will grow, especially if you fertilize after this heavy pruning.

The following year remove another 3rd of the original old stems and the third year the last 3rd, fertilizing each year with a 10-6-5 fertilizer or a similar analysis, directly after pruning. Needless to say the plants should be watered thoroughly after fertilizing.

Do not let all the new stems that grow from the base of the plant grow to maturity. It's better to restrict them in number from the beginning as this will result in a more compact plant (unless, of course, you leave only stems growing around the outer edge of the plant to mature--in which case it's your own fault if you have a sloppy shrub.)

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