

International Lilac Society

Lilacs

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PROCEEDINGS

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INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY is a non-profit corporation comprised of individuals who share a particular interest, appreciation and fondness for lilacs. Through exchange of knowledge, experience and facts gained by members it is helping to promote, educate and broaden public understanding and awareness.

Published January 1981

This ninth issue of
Proceedings of the
International Lilac Society
is respectfully
dedicated
to the memory of
BERNARD HARKNESS

Second President
1972 - 1973



*May his leadership
continue to inspire
the activities of a grateful Society*

Falconskeape, its Gardens and Lilacs

Falconskeape is Fr. Fiala's country hideaway. It is located in York Township, Medina County, Ohio, a county which originally formed part of the southwestern boundary of Connecticut's Western Reserve. The name Falconskeape alludes to families of falcons which nest in the nearby forests, and also to the patronym Fiala which in Old German signifies "falconer" or "keeper of falcons".

The farm consists of a renovated log cabin homestead and barn situated on a 112-acre section, including two large fields, a distant woodlot plus a 19-acre water impoundment, the central landscape feature. Surrounding the farm group and lake are spacious gardens given to extensive plant collections, woody and herbaceous, native and exotic.

Fr. Fiala's hobby is plant hybridizing. He studies inheritance characters from cross-pollination as well as the effects of colchicine on genetic tissues. Of necessity there is a small specialized nursery among the gardens, and many plants are grown under number while being tested. The major groups of plants which Fr. Fiala studies are crab apples, lilacs, peonies and daylilies; however the grounds abound in numerous rare and unusual species and cultivars, such as oaks and walnuts, willows and Siberian iris. During the blooming and fruiting seasons he opens his gardens to interested plant groups, church and garden clubs, daylily and lilac societies. Because emphasis is placed upon hybridizing activities, Fr. Fiala asks indulgence for the often unkempt appearance of the grounds. No insect control programs are undertaken in order that a plant's resistance to pests and diseases may be assessed. Also pruning is kept to a minimum, the better to observe a plant's natural form. No hired help is employed. The Fiala relatives, who live nearby, contribute to the general upkeep, and on special occasions come forward to provide hospitality.

In 1969 many of Fr. Fiala's seedling and choice plants, some dating from 1935, were transplanted from his former garden a mile away to the present one. Several of these older plants are still, a decade later, not completely adjusted to their new site. So, there is ever something new in bloom for the first time. Among the principal gardens are the collections of lilacs and flowering crab apples, the hybridizing nursery, trail garden, woodland garden, bog garden, the lakes, natural meadows and historic wooded lands.

Oftentimes a garden becomes a living memorial to special friends, a friendship garden. Fr. Fiala's is such a garden. Many of Falconskeape's plants have come through friends. There is a fraternity among gardeners and plantsmen which rejoices the owner's heart as

he comes upon a shared plant -- its very presence doubles the bonds of friendship. And so Fr. Fiala generously acknowledges his indebtedness to those friends living and departed, near and far, of long-standing and new found: D. Eveleens Maarse, Dr. A.P. Saunders, Dr. J. Kennedy, Orville Fay, Dr. John Rankin, Dr. William Munson, Brother Charles Reckamp, Dr. Donald Egolf, Dr. Fred Busher, Professor Lester Nichols, Henry Ross, Steve Moldovan, Bill Barrere, Clare and Mary Short, and especially to his immediate family including his late elder brother Louis. These and many others too numerous to mention by name have made this hybridist's garden possible.

Lilac Cultivars Originated at Falconskeape

Vulgares

'Mother Louise' ('Carley' x 'Flora')
'Lourene Wishart' ('Edward J. Gardner' x 'Rochester' F2)
Aloise ('Flora' selfed) tetraploid
Emery Mae Norweb ('Flora' x 'Gismonda')
Blue Giant ('Gismonda' x 'Moonlight')
Bluebird ('Gismonda' x 'Rustica')
Hosanna ('Gismonda' x 'Rustica')
Blue Procelain ('Mrs. August Belmont' x 'Rochester' F1)
Little Miss Muffet ('Mrs. Edward Harding' x 'Macrostachya') tetraploid
Albert F. Holden ('Reaumur' x 'Sarah Sands')
Atheline Wilbur ('Rochester' F2 seedling)
Pink Parasol, selection of *S. Julianae*

Villosae

Garden Peace (*Komarowii* x *Wolfii*) tetraploid
Spellbinder (*Komarowii* x *Wolfii*) tetraploid
Mary A. Short, *Prestoniae* ('Esther Staley' x 'Pocahontas')
Springtime (*Sweginzowii* 'Albida' x *Wolfii*) tetraploid
Sunrise (*Sweginzowii* 'Albida' x *Wolfii*) tetraploid
Kum-Bum, induced mutation of *S. tomentella*
Dancing Druid (*tomentella* x *yunnanensis*)
Prophecy, tetraploid seedling of *S. yunnanensis*

Gardenview Horticultural Park

On Friday afternoon we drove to Strongsville for a visit with Henry A. Ross, founder and director of Gardenview Horticultural Park located at 16711 Pearl Road (Ohio route 42). In 1950 Mr. Ross took this flat sixteen-acre plot of blue and yellow clays and single-handedly has transformed it through vision and much vigor, an enduring love of plants and plenty of perseverance into gardens of surpassing beauty.

The entrance gate, recessed only slightly from the busy highway, opens onto a courtyard; to the right is the Friends of Gardenview *haus* with its roof garden; to the left is the springtime garden of ornamental trees, azaleas and bulbs. The walk leads to the Library and Meeting Room. Beyond the courtyard is a shade garden featuring plantain-lilies under a heavy canopy of flowering trees. These intensively planted gardens are bounded by a slow-running stream traversed by a footbridge which terminates a long axis connecting the Rose Garden with the Arboretum.

Toward the end of the path, and to the left, we found the Lilac Garden under development. Mr. Ross has provided space for a sizeable collection of lilacs, the nucleus of which is already in place. These few specimens are planted in raised beds to overcome the often saturated springtime soils in this section of the park. Upon departing President Rogers presented Henry Ross with an award for the remarkable achievements he has made in developing Gardenview Horticultural Park as a public botanical garden park without support by taxpayers.

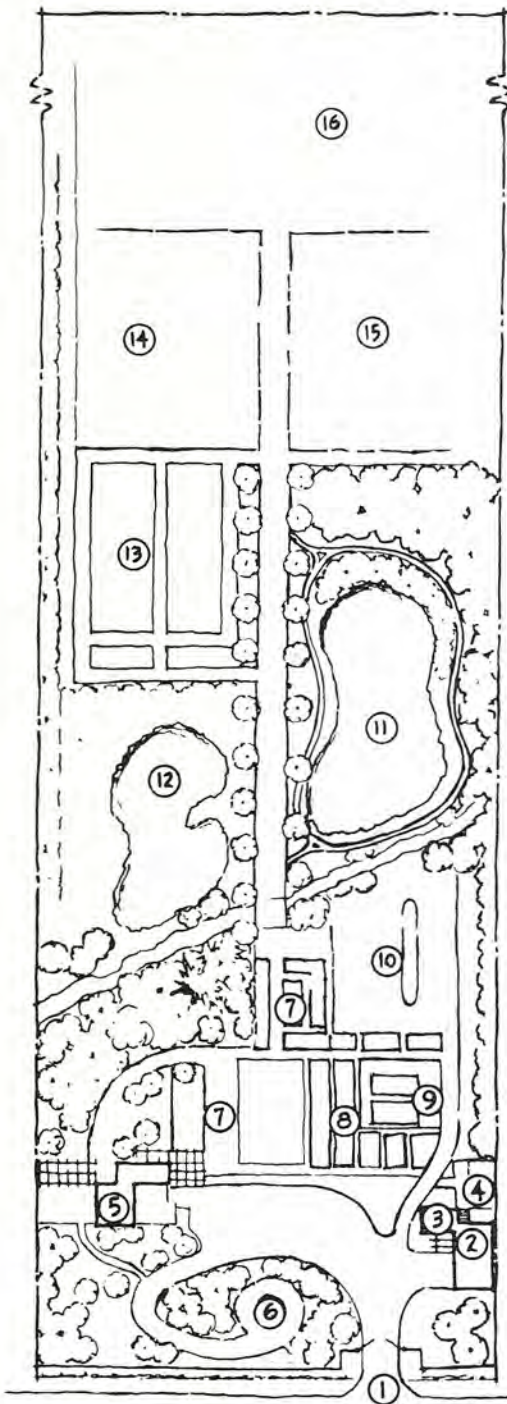
The Holden Arboretum's Lilac Demonstration Garden

by CHARLES L. KNIGHT of Knight & Stolar, Inc., Cleveland

When I was asked to talk to your group about a demonstration garden specializing in lilacs, I felt a little like a family doctor who might have been asked to discuss tonsils with a group of ear, nose and throat specialists. So right at the start let me make clear that no specialized collection is the result of one man's skill. It takes a team effort by perceptive arboretum trustees, collectors, authors, hybridizers, propagators, nurserymen, landscape contractors and dedicated maintenance men, as well as landscape architect to create a successful result.

The site chosen, nearby the entrance to the Warren H. Corning Library Education Building, is of paramount importance. It must relate successfully to the long-range master land-use plan of the arboretum, provide suitable growing conditions, must have room to expand to meet future needs. Key considerations are its natural

PLOT PLAN of
GARDENVIEW



- 1 - Entrance Gate
- 2 - F.O.G.* Haus - Roof Garden
- 3 - Visitors Rest Rooms
- 4 - Peacocks - Fowls
- 5 - Library - Meeting Room
- 6 - Spring garden - tulips, Daffodils, Azaleas, Crabapples - followed by Summer Annuals
- 7 - Rose Gardens
- 8 - Shade Plants - Hosta collection Early Spring Bulbs
- 9 - Green Houses
- 10 - Parking
- 11 - Water Lily Pond
- 12 - Water Fowl Pond
- 13 - Perennial Beds - Hemerocallis, Iris, Peonies, Rhododendrons
- 14 - Future Lilac Garden
- 15 - Future Garden (Roses)
- 16 - Hilltop 10 Acre Arboretum 25000 Daffodils (April) 2500 Flowering and Ornamental Trees

Pearl Road - Rt. 42

*FRIENDS OF GARDENVIEW
(F.O.G.)



Walking the Holden Arboretum

boundaries, topography, soils, microclimates, existing plantings and its relationship with other-use areas. These are analyzed through the use of schematic sketch plans developed over existing conditions surveys. Existing features are mapped and future access requirements examined for their impact upon the site under consideration.

Once actual planning starts ground forms and existing tree growth usually suggest development opportunities. Circulation plans must consider special views, growing conditions, enframement and the generalized masses of proposed plantings: high tree forms, low tree form and medium and low masses as they relate to woods and lawns.

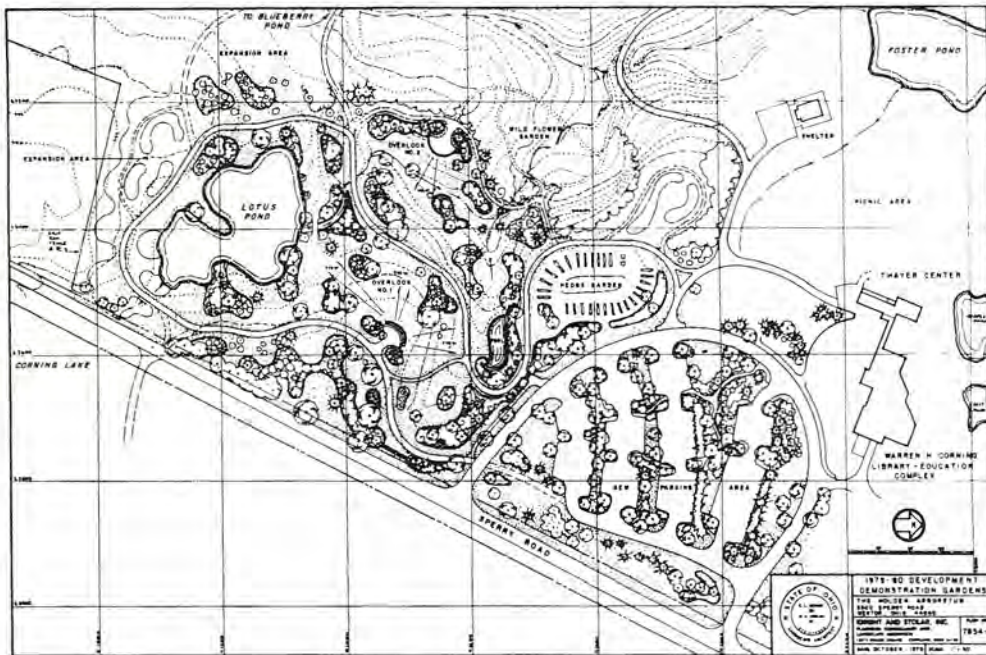
A demonstration garden has certain special requirements. First, it must entice visitors to enter. It also must provide or suggest solutions for people concerned about the plantings of their own yards. Secondly, it must be attractive at all seasons, especially in spring and early summer when everyone is aware of growing plants and flowers. It should include evergreens for winter interest and certain plants which are spectacular in fruit or fall foliage. Because of its limited size, only the choicest species and cultivars should be displayed. A working collection, elsewhere, should carry the more complete inventory. Lastly, it should allow for the viewing of plant groupings arranged in the most pleasing combinations of size, texture and color, not just as specimens, while still permitting close inspection of individual plants for identification and study.

Let us now consider the lilacs. What does it take to grow them? At the Holden Arboretum we find a shallow, heavy-clay soil with shale not too far below the clay. This poses problems for most plantings, including lilacs. The solution we adopted to overcome the possible effects of poor drainage was to construct raised planting beds. A cross-section calls for a three inch layer of sandy gravel, nine to twelve inches of topsoil, three inches of well-rotted manure plus a bark mulch.

Criteria for lilac selection include mature height of plant, texture of foliage, color of bloom, hardiness, phenological aspects (bloom date, fall color, if any), the several types (species, early, mid season and late hybrids), and especially the maximum number of lilacs, in our case 125 plants (see list below).

Landscape design considerations include circulation criteria (width and gradient of drives, walks and paths), relation of turf panels to planting beds, possible inclusion of water (pools and/or swale), filler plants among the lilacs, fall and winter effects, for example.

You will notice that, as we inspect the progress, many of the lilacs are already in place. They are spaced for mature spread. Filler plants, not yet planted, are expendable and will be removed upon crowding the lilacs.



THE HOLDEN ARBORETUM LILAC DEMONSTRATION GARDEN

Syringa species and cultivars

- | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------|
| x chinensis | 'Doctor Chadwick' | 'Sunset' |
| f. alba | 'Esther Staley' | 'The Bride' |
| f. metensis | 'Evangeline' | 'Turgot' |
| f. saugeana | 'Lamartine' | x josiflexa 'Guinevere' |
| emodi | 'Mirabeau' | 'Royalty' |
| 'Hedin (<i>villosa</i> x <i>Sweginzowii</i>) | 'Montesquieu' | josikaea |
| 'Hunting Tower' (<i>villosa</i> x <i>Sweginzowii</i>) | 'Necker' | x nanceiana 'Floreal' |
| x hyacinthiflora | 'Royal Purple' | 'Rutilant' |
| 'Anabel' | 'Scotia' | oblata var. dilatata |
| 'Assessippi' | 'Sister Justena' | 'Cheyenne' |
| 'Claude Bernard' | 'Summer Skies' | pekinensis |

'Prairial' (*Henryi* x *tomentella*)
 x *persica*
 x *prestoniae* 'Alice'
 'Coral'
 'Dawn'
 'Hiawatha'
 'Isabella'
 'Jessica'
reflexa
reticulata
 var. *mandschurica*
sweginzowii
tomentella
villosa
wolfii

Syringa vulgaris

var. *alba*
 'Alphonse Laval'
 'A. M. Brand'
 'Ami Schott'
 'Andenken an Ludwig Spath'
 'Anne Shiach'
 'Anne Tighe'
 'Arthur William Paul'
 'Astra'
 'Athlene Wilbur'
 'Big Blue'
 'Boussingault'
 'Caroline Foley'
 'Capitaine Baltet'
 'Cavour'
 'Charles Joly'
 'Charles X'
 'Christophe Colomb'
 'Clara Cochet'
 'Decaisne'
 'De Humboldt'
 'De Miribel'
 'De Saussure'

'Dwight D. Eisenhower'
 'Edith Braun'
 'Edith Cavell'
 'Emery Mae Norweb'
 'Emile Gentil'
 'Firmament'
 'Frau Bertha Dammann'
 'Fritz'
 'Gaudichaud'
 'General Grant'
 'General Pershing'
 'General Sherman'
 'Georges Bellair'
 'Gloire de Moulins'
 'Glory'
 'Godron'
 'Goliath'
 'Heather Haze'
 'Henri Martin'
 'Herman Eilers'
 'Hosanna'
 'Hugo Koster'
 'Jacques Callot'
 'Jane Day'
 'Jeanne d'Arc'
 'Katherine Havemeyer'
 'Kitchen Blue'
 'Lady Lindsay'
 'Lamarck'
 'La Tour d'Auvergne'
 'Leon Gambetta'
 'Lucie Baltet'
 'Macrostachya'
 'Marc Micheli'
 'Marechal Foch'
 'Marechal Lannes'
 'Marie Legraye'
 'Marie Finon'
 'Maud Notcutt'
 'Maximowicz'
 'Michael Buchner'
 'Midwest Gem'

'Miss Ellen Willmott'
 'Mme. Antoine Buchner'
 'Mme. F. Morel'
 'Mme. Florent Stepman'
 'Mme. Lemoine'
 'Monge'
 'Mont Blanc'
 'Mrs. Edward Harding'
 'Mrs. W. E. Marshall'
 'Night'
 'Paul Deschanel'
 'Paul Thirion'
 'Perle von Stuttgart'
 'Philemon'
 'Pink Perfection'
 'President Carnot'
 'President Grevy'
 'President Lambeau'
 'President Massart'
 'President Poincare'
 'President Viger'
 'Primose'
 'Prof. E. H. Wilson'
 'Pyramidal'
 'Reaumur'
 'Rochester'
 'Roi Albert'
 'Ruhm von Horstenstein'
 'Sarah Sands'
 'Sensation'
 'Sweetheart'
 'Thunberg'
 'Vestale'
 'Victor Lemoine'
 'Violet Glory'
 'Violetta'
 'Virginite'
 'Volcan'
 'Waldeck-Rousseau'
 'White Long Fellow'
 'Znamya Lenyna'
 'Zulu'



Mrs. Jeffery (Emery Mae) McManus, granddaughter of Albert Holden, co-hostess with her sister Mrs. Paul R. Abbey of the I.L.S. Luncheon at Holden Arboretum examines new lilac cultivars introduced by Fr. John Fiala honoring her greatgrandfather Albert F. Holden (a unique single deep purple with a silver reverse) and a creamy double white lilac honoring her grandmother 'Emery Mae Norweb' also introduced was a Rochester seedling, a multipetaled

bluish lavender-rose honoring Mrs. John Wilbur ('Atheline Wilbur').

Transplanting Lilacs at The Holden Arboretum

by CHRISTINA A. GAUCI,
The Holden Arboretum

Planted about forty years ago, lilacs are one of the oldest plant collections at the Holden Arboretum. As part of the Warren H. Corning Library-Education Center development, lilacs received priority as part of the landscape demonstration garden surrounding the facility. The new Lilac Demonstration Garden was constructed in approximately the same location as the original planting. There was a lot of earth moved with the excavation and grading, construction of planting beds, pathways, and lotus reflection pond.

In June 1979 the maintenance staff had the job of moving plants from the existing planting to facilitate construction operations. Approximately forty lilacs and several companion plants were removed and heeled-in for later planting in the garden. An equal number of lilacs was removed and planted along the parking area of the maintenance facility, since they would not be used again in the garden.

The digging operation then began when the plants were in full leaf. This is not the optimal time, however, with proper handling, transplanting can successfully be done in summertime. Success in transplanting is measured by the low degree of shock to the plants and by how well they resume growth. Our goal was to keep handling and subsequent shock at a minimum and to provide optimal after-care. In all transplanting operations it is adequate care after transplanting that governs the survival of the plant.

SUMMARY OF METHODS:

The use of front-end loader and back-hoe allowed for a much larger root mass than would be dug by hand. Water stress could be reduced by maintaining a larger root area. Since the plants were moved only a short distance, we could afford to handle the large, heavy root balls. The back-hoe was used to dig around the ball. After the soil was excavated, nursery spades were used to shave excess soil and to make complete cuts of the roots.

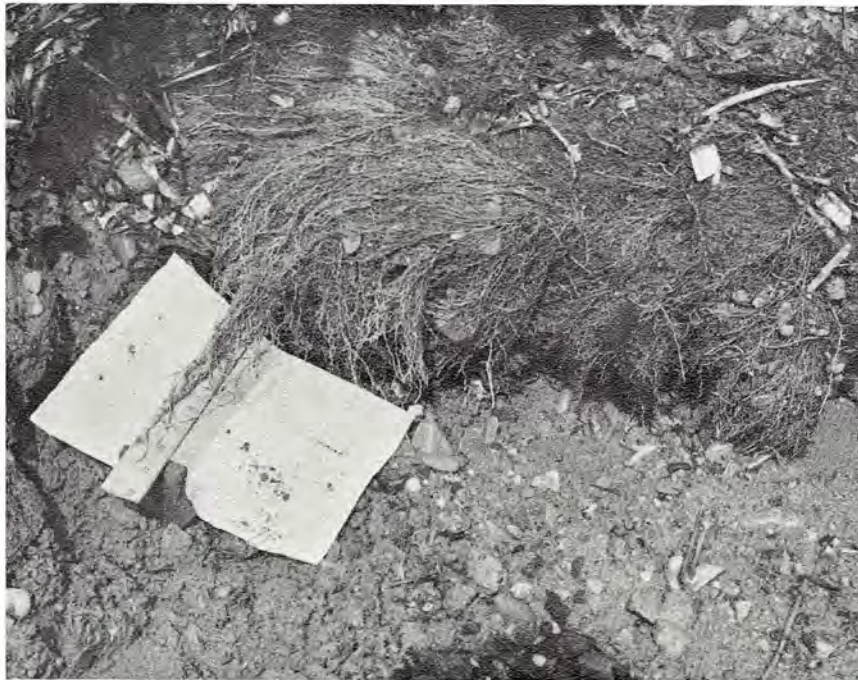
The plants were removed from the holes in various ways, depending on the size of the plant and the slope of the growing site. Many were lifted out with the front-end loader, using tractor size tire chains to hold the soil mass in place. Some plants were dug with one clean sweep of the back-hoe, which saved both time and handling of the plants.

As the plants were lifted, all were set on 4 ft. x 4 ft. wooden pallets. The pallets allowed moving the plants without further disturbance of the root mass. This proved to be especially important when the plants were moved back to the garden. The lift forks attached to the bucket of the front-end loader were essential to move plants with the pallets. The "palletted" plants were transported by tractor and a flat-bed trailer.

To store them for later planting the lilacs were heeled-in near the maintenance garage where they could be frequently monitored. The good drainage, an essential factor in growing lilacs. A thick layer of woodchips applied over the river gravel provided for moisture retention.

To reduce water loss through the leaves all the plants were pruned and thinned. Thirty to forty per cent of the leaf mass was removed, as was old wood from the *S. vulgaris* varieties to promote rejuvenation. The area was kept irrigated with an oscillating lawn-type sprinkler. From the time of digging, throughout the summer season none of the plants showed signs of wilting or dessication. By August there was a considerable amount of new growth on many of the varieties. Observing this vigorous growth, we decided to look at what the roots were doing.

On August 3, 1979, eight weeks after moving, soil was excavated from the roots of two *Syringa vulgaris* varieties. A jet spray of water was used to wash the gravel away. This operation revealed that both plants had developed a thick, fibrous root system. Root growth into the gravel from the original soil ball was measured at eleven inches. The soil temperature at the edge of the root ball was 72 degrees F., a favorable temperature for root development. The flush of new root growth can be attributed to the factors of good aeration in the porous gravel, an ample moisture supply, and high soil temperatures. By fall the plants had developed a good root system and established new shoot growth.



Root growth measured eight weeks after transplanting: 11 inches.

Since the plants were to remain heeled-in over winter, an additional layer of woodchips and straw was applied to protect the root balls against freezing. Snow cover provided additional insulation.



Root growth observed in April 1979 on *Syringa Vulgaris*, moved the previous June.

The following April the lilacs showed excellent bud and leaf development with very little die-back from the winter. Roots of the lilacs that were excavated previously were again uncovered for examination. There was a noticeably thicker root mass than that observed in August. The new root development measured up to twenty-eight inches in length (compared with eleven inches in August). This growth is very significant to the success of transplanting. The transplanted plants showed virtually no ill effects nor shock and had resumed vigorous growth and development.

Even with the vigorous nature of lilacs loss of moisture and damage to roots is a major obstacle in transplanting. These factors make summer transplanting difficult. However, with proper handling, summer can be an excellent time to transplant. The soil is warmer and better aerated at that season, and dealing with the water-logged soils of spring is avoided. Higher soil temperatures promote good root development by fall. Extra care must be taken to maintain a continual supply of moisture to the roots, which in turn avoids dessication from the rapid transpiration through the leaves.

Other plant species have been moved successfully in summer. Homer L. Jacobs, for instance, reported in a "Davey Bulletin" of

1956, the successful moving of a 7½" DBH pin oak in mid-June. A recent article from the annual report of the University of Hamburg, West Germany, describes a successful summer transplanting of several very large Sequoiadendron trees employing methods similar to what we have used here.

The first of May, 1980, the front-end loader was again employed to remove the palletted plants from the holding area. Forks on the front-end loader were used to lift the plants. With the additional growth many of the soil balls had increased in mass making them far more difficult to remove. The method of using pallets proved to be both efficient and beneficial to the plants by allowing ease in transport with very little disturbance of the soil mass. The lilacs were transported by tractor trailer and by front-end loader. Many remained on the pallets when planted to eliminate chances of breaking the root ball. These plants have performed well in their final locations.

By employing these methods for transplanting, mature plant material has been maintained in the new demonstration garden. This project has shown that by providing proper after-care it is possible to transplant large plants in the summer, and may even be a desired time for accessibility and ease in operations.



Root growth measured in April, 1979 at 28 inches.

E. H. Wilson and the "Nodding Lilac"

by RICHARD A. HOWARD

Arnold Arboretum, Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts

At the time of his death E. H. Wilson was writing a new book entitled "Wilson's Plants in Cultivation". The unpublished manuscript became the property of his granddaughter, Mrs. John Abbott, who has presented it to the Arnold Arboretum. Although the text was not completed and the nomenclature is out of date, the manuscript does include timeless comments and field observations by the master of plant introduction and is being considered for possible publication. Only one lilac, *Syringa reflexa*, was included in the compendium, and we share Wilson's observations with the members of the International Lilac Society.

Syringa reflexa was described by Camillo Schneider from herbarium specimens collected in fruit by Augustine Henry in 1888 and in flower by Wilson in 1901 when he was collecting for the Veitch nurseries. Wilson saw the plant again in 1907 while collecting for the Arnold Arboretum but failed to get seeds. In 1910 he marked a flowering plant, photographed it, and in the fall gathered the seeds. The popular name applied to this plant was "Pendulous lilac" (Nash, Jour. N.Y.B.G. 20: 234. 1919) but "Nodding Lilac" was approved by Standardized Plants Names and is applied by current authors.

In his manuscript Wilson described the plant and made these comments:

"The inflorescence of this distinct and beautiful Lilac varies considerably in form and position. Typically it is cylindrical and tail-like and almost pendulous, from this it varies to laxly pyramidal and may be drooping or sub-erect; all conditions may be found on one and the same individual. The flowers are freely borne at the end of leafy shoots and occasionally lateral inflorescences develop. The color of the flower is exceedingly pleasing being a good red-pink, brighter than any other species; on the inside the petals are pure white and the yellow anthers are prominent. The picture in the "Botanical Magazine" is excellent. The species is peculiar to the mountains of north-western Hupeh and adjacent Szechuan where in thickets by the sides of mountain torrents and on the margin of woodlands it is not uncommon between altitudes of from 5,000 to 8,000 feet above sea level. In a wild state it blossoms in the latter half of June, but under cultivation it blossoms in late May or early June.

"This plant was discovered in 1888 on the mountains of Fang Hsien by A. Henry. I met with it in the same district in 1901 and it is on the material then collected that the species is founded. The plant was in flower and I caught sight of it a little distance and across a small river and wondered what curious sort of Wistaria it could be. The narrow in-

florescences were 10 to 12 inches long and quite pendulous, and it was only when I succeeded in actually reaching the plant that I was able to identify it as a Lilac. A good deal of the mountainous region of north-western Hupeh is heavily forested and enjoys a heavy rainfall which often mitigates against the fruiting of trees and shrubs. To my regret I could find no seeds in 1901, neither was I successful in 1907. In 1910 I marked some plants down in June and in autumn succeeded in securing seeds (#4460). Some of these seeds were sent to England and others to the Arnold Arboretum. A number of plants were raised. So far as I know the plants flowered for the first time in the garden of T.A.Havemeyer at Glen Head, Long Island, N.Y. in 1916 when the variation in position of the inflorescence caused no little surprise and wonder. Like other known species of Lilac, this plant is perfectly hardy in the Arnold Arboretum where, however, it has not grown so freely or flowered so well as in other nearby gardens. It has proved hardy as far north as Ottawa where in the gardens of the Central Experimental Farm a new and very hardy race of Lilacs named *S. Prestoniae* has resulted from the skill of Miss Isabella Preston in crossing this species with *s. villosa*."

The seeds received at the Arnold Arboretum were numbered Arn. Arb. 6857 by the greenhouse staff and planted March 8, 1911, and the resulting seedlings shared. Seeds were also sent to the Office of Woods, Forests and Land Revenues in London for Kew, and the illustration in the Botanical Magazine (146, t. 8869. 1920) represented the plant described then as five feet tall. An undated herbarium specimen from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh, Scotland, represented a plant grown from the original seed lot with Wilson's number 4460. Undocumented but old specimens are in the herbarium from the firm of Vilmorin in France. A specimen collected in 1963 indicates *Syringa reflexa* flowered at the Arboretum Mustilla in Finland (60 14' N, 26 29' E). The species is reported under cultivation today in eastern United States at Longwood Gardens, Winterthur, The U.S. National Arboretum; at the Landscape Arboretum in Minnesota; and on the West Coast at the Los Angeles State and County Arboretum and at the University of Washington Arboretum.

Herbarium specimens dated 1915 were made of a flowering plant from the estate of Charles Sargent in Brookline, Massachusetts. McKelvey (The Lilac: p.73. 1928) reported that the plant growing in the Arboretum "has never thriven satisfactorily" but that there were "four plants which are worthier representatives" at Holm Lea and that three of these were moved to the Arboretum collections in the autumn of 1927 and numbered 20450, 20451 and 20452. The original plant in the Arboretum collection was removed at the age of 22 years for unstated causes in 1933, but had been propagated by cuttings in 1926 (numbered 1528-26) and by grafting on "ash" in 1928. In 1956 scions from 1925-26 were grafted on *Ligustrum un-*

derstock and lived but eight years. The 1926 propagation, presumably on its own roots, is still alive in 1979.

Wilson mentioned the Nodding Lilac in several of his books, and in *Aristocrats of the Garden* (pp. 221,222. 1926) forecast that in the hands of a hybridist *S. reflexa* "may be the forerunner of a race totally different in aspect when in flower from present-day Lilacs." The hybridist proved to be Miss Isabella Preston of Ottawa, who used the hardy *S. villosa* as the pistillate parent and the pollen of *S. reflexa*, less hardy but new and distinctive, to produce the group Mrs. McKelvey named *X S. prestoniae*. Mrs. McKelvey chose as the type of the group the form Preston 20-14-114, which she named cv. Isabella in honor of Miss Preston, and also selected 'W. T. Macoun', a cultivar named for the Dominion Horticulturist in whose department Miss Preston worked.

Camillo Schneider cited Henry 6819, a fruiting specimen, and Wilson, Veitch Expedition #2078, a flowering specimen, without selecting a type. A specimen of Wilson 2078, collected in flower in July 1901, is designated as the lectotype in the herbarium of the Arnold Arboretum. It is of interest to note that only one additional specimen from the wild has been located in herbaria, and that, attributed to McLaren's collectors in the Plants of Yunan series U-130, was made in 1930.

Syringa reflexa, the Nodding Lilac, is not as popular as it deserves to be. Wilson's original photograph of the plant from which he collected seed (Arn. Arb. 2nd exped. #092) and McKelvey's plates XXV and XXVI illustrate what an attractive plant it can be.

INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY

Annual Convention Membership Meeting - Medina, Ohio

May 23

At 4:05 PM President Rogers welcomed ILS members and asked for a moment of silent prayer for deceased member, Dr. Radcliffe Pike. He then called on Nancy Emerson and Joel Margaratten to give a report on the conditions of lilacs in various parts of the country from south to west. Mr. and Mrs. Emerson had traveled through many states visiting lilac collections from Florida to Vancouver. Dr. Margaretan reported he had held seminars of 2 hours each, started some people on collections, and will give a seminar in Oregon soon. He will have scions for propagation.

Mr. Utley passed out bylaw copies.

The treasurers report was given by Marie Chaykowski.**

Dr. Rogers explained the Upton Scrapbooks and expressed the hope they could be published by this fall.

Walter Oakes gave the membership report. Membership is in good condition despite some losses.

Col. Schenker reported on last year's auction. There were 200 plants and \$841.25 was taken in; \$600 of which was from plants brought in from Canada. He hopes to do even better this year.

Mrs. Schenker announced the slate for Board membership. The slate was elected as presented.*

A letter from the mayor of Des Moines welcoming the ILS next May was read. Also one from the Holiday Inn inviting us to stay there. Mr. Heard told of Horticultural attractions in Des Moines to be seen May 10th or 15th.

President Rogers reported a new lilac planting at the University of New Hampshire. A Lilac Scholarship is to be awarded at UNH to a student involved in developing lilacs.

He declared the meeting adjourned after stating that he found the Lilac Society well and expanding.

*Sue Ferguson
Secretary*

* See attached list **See attached report

**INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY
FINANCIAL REPORT - MAY, 1980**

Balance Brought Forward \$7,362.01

Receipts

Membership	2,784.93	
Seed Exchange Refund	58.88	
Durham Convention	1,027.53	
Publications	16.00	
Donation (Cora Lyden) Upton	50.00	
Ann Robinson Memorial (Upton)	281.50	
Donation (Archie McKean)	1,000.00	
Interest	372.43	
	5,591.27	5,591.27
	Total Cash	12,953.28

Expenditures

E.R.C. Mailings	750.00	
Awards	356.59	
Convention Advance	200.00	
Mailings, Calls (Alexander)	79.14	
Permit, Mailings, Env. (Fiala)	321.00	
Postage, Phone (Eichorst)	16.47	
Postage, Mailing, Due Bills	190.87	
Flower & Garden Ad. (Oakes)	1,914.07	1,914.07
	Total All Accounts	11,039.21

Break Up

Life Membership	1,800.00
Ed. & Research	1,778.53
Upton Papers	2,659.13
Legal	263.72
By-Laws	199.29
Donation (?)	1,000.00
Operating	3,338.54
	11,039.21

*Respectfully Submitted
Marie F. Chaykowski
Treasurer I.L.S.*

1980 I.L.S. CONVENTION

RECEIPTS:

Paid Registration at \$45.00 (56)	\$2520.00
Advance from I.L.S.	200.00
Lilac Auction	960.25
Profit from Hospitality Bar	2.61
Public Extra Tours at Falconskeape (18)	180.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS \$3862.86

DISBURSEMENTS:

Holiday Inn	
5/22 Board of Directors Dinner (30)	\$345.47
5/23 Board Meeting Breakfast (20)	47.27
5/23 President's Dinner (63)	683.49
5/24 Board Meeting Breakfast	47.27
5/24 Directors' Award Banquet	618.22

(60) Guarantee

TOTAL \$1741.72

Food at Falconskeape	\$98.11
Hospitality	74.61
Tags and Postage	17.94
Rent Chairs and Tables (Holden)	124.50
Bus Transportation	310.00
Convention Brochures	218.00
Rental Mike & Lecturn (Holden)	30.50
Printing (Holden)	70.92
Film Presentation (Victor Rajewski)	100.00
Upton Scrapbook from Ohio Chapter I.L.S.	200.00
Return to International Lilac Society	200.00
Money from Lilac Auction	960.25

TOTAL \$4146.55

DISBURSEMENTS \$4146.55

RECEIPTS 3862.86

DEFICIT \$283.69 (picked up by the Ohio Chapter
of the I.L.S. and Holden's Arboretum)

ELSIE L. KARA

Pres. Ohio Chapter I.L.S.

International Lilac Society

1980 Ballot to elect 8 directors for a 3 year term.

The following candidates are nominated by the nominating committee:

- John Carvill, Latham, New York - *an enthusiastic private collector*
- * Marie Chaykowski, Mantua, Ohio - *I.L.S. Treasurer*
- * Walter Eickhorst, Naperville, Illinois - *I.L.S. Editor*
- * Nancy Emerson, Delhi, New York - *Chairman of I.L.S. Promotion & Education Committee*
- Pauline Fiala, Spencer, Ohio - *Owner of a sizable private collection of lilacs*
- Lyle Littlefield, Orono, Maine - *Associate Prof. of Ornamental Horticulture at Univ. of Maine*
- * Dr. Joel Margaretten, Leona Valley, California - *I.L.S. Pacific Regional Vice-president*

* Martin, Winfried K., Mentor, Ohio - *Superintendent of Grounds, Holden Arboretum*

* *Signifies incumbent*

Prepared by the Nominating Committee:

John H. Alexander III, *Chairman*
Mollie Pesata
Max Peterson



Dr. Owen M. Rogers, President of I.L.S. presents award to Charles L. Knight of the Holden Arboretum.

May 1980

THE HONORS AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

THE HIGHEST AWARD OF
THE INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY

is presented to

ISABEL ZUCKER

BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN

For truly dedicated work to the society in pioneering the I.L.S. Monthly Newsletter -

For service and dedication as a former member of the Board of Directors

For the work and support of updating the Society By-Laws.

For extraordinary support for Lilac research publications and activities.

THE DIRECTORS' AWARD

OF
THE INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY

is presented to

DR. DONALD EGOLF

OF THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM, WASHINGTON, D.C.

For the excellence of his Lilac hybridization work at the National Arboretum especially to develop newer and better forms of lilacs for warmer climates and for newer cultivars and hybrids.

For outstanding scientific research for disease free lilacs and immune cultivars.

For truly outstanding work in promoting newer and better cultivars of lilacs and their propagation.

For dedicated work as a member of the Board of Directors of The International Lilac Society.

THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD

OF
THE INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY

is presented to

THE HOLDEN ARBORETUM

KIRTLAND, OHIO

For its outstanding use of Lilacs in one of the world's leading Arboreta featuring Horticultural Landscaping of exceptional merit and design.

For its education of the public in its planting of a Lilac Walk of great beauty and design of lasting value.
For its hospitality to the International Lilac Society Meeting here at Kirtland, May 24, 1980.

THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD
OF
THE INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY
is presented to
GARDENVIEW HORTICULTURAL PARK
STRONGSVILLE, OHIO
and to
DIRECTOR, HENRY ROSS

For creating an outstanding Horticultural Park for public appreciation that features the Lilac in various planting.
For promoting the educational value of the Lilac in smaller Landscaping design and in Landscaping Featuring.

THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD
OF
THE INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY
is presented to
FALCONSKEAPE GARDENS
AND
FR. JOHN L. FIALA
YORK, MEDINA, OHIO

For a truly outstanding collection of Lilacs containing a wide selection from the oldest to the newest cultivars displayed for public viewing.
For the work both with *Vulgaris* hybrids and Interspecific hybrids and the largest planting of Tetraploid Lilacs in landscape display and research plantings.
For educating the public to the beauty and use of the Lilac by garden display and promoting its planting.
For hosting the International Lilac Society Convention on May 23, 1980.

THE AWARD OF MERIT
OF
THE INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY
is presented to
BETTY STONE
OF ASHLAND, OHIO

For work in originating and naming new and better forms of Lilacs of outstanding merit and distinction including "Ralph W. Stone", "Betty Stone", "Anna Nickles", "Florence" and "Florence Christine".

THE AWARD OF MERIT
OF
THE INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY
is presented to
CHARLES L. KNIGHT
OF KNIGHT & STOLAR INC., SHAKER HEIGHTS, OHIO

For featuring the Lilac in a truly outstanding work of new landscape design at the Holden Arboretum, Kirtland, Ohio, both in the new Lilac Walk and in specimen plantings. In this modern design outstanding Lilac cultivars are used to help educate the public to appreciate the beauty and landscape use of the Lilac.

THE AWARD OF MERIT
OF
THE INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY
is presented to
JOHN and ATHELINE WILBUR
OF MENTOR, OHIO

For outstanding support to feature the planting of lilacs in a special 'Lilac Walk' for the appreciation of the viewing public at the Holden Arboretum.

For reawakening in the public a love for the beauty of the Lilac.

THE AWARD OF MERIT
OF
THE INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY
is presented to
WINFRIED (MARTY) MARTIN
OF THE HOLDEN ARBORETUM, KIRTLAND, OHIO

For outstanding work in supervision of plantings in a truly outstanding landscaping featuring the Lilac at the Holden Arboretum.
For outstanding work as a director of the International Lilac Society in both promoting and publicizing the growing of Lilacs.

THE AWARD OF MERIT
OF
THE INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY
is presented to
R. HENRY NORWEB JR.
DIRECTOR, THE HOLDEN ARBORETUM, KIRTLAND, OHIO

For outstanding work in directing one of the world's largest Arboreta and for enabling new and truly exemplary horticultural design and direction that features the Lilac in landscaping of magnificent proportion and beauty.
For promotion by the use of lilacs for public viewing of a deeper appreciation of their use.



Fr. Fiala presents the award for R. Henry Norweb, Jr. to Mrs. Emery Mae Holden Norweb, Daughter of founder of Holden Arboretum, Albert Holden, at I.L.S. Luncheon hosted by the Holden-Norweb Family at which the new double white lilac (Fiala '80) was named in her honor 'Emery Mae Norweb' was introduced.



INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY
Committees for 1980-81

SET COMMITTEES

Executive Committee

Owen M. Rogers - *Chairman*
William Utley
Walter Oakes
Marie Chaykowski
Walter Eickhorst

Lilac Evaluation

Charles Holetich

Registrar

Freek Vrugtman

Archives

Fr. John Fiala

APPOINTED COMMITTEES

*Arboretum and Test Garden
Organizing Committee*

Freek Vrugtman - *Chairman*
Donald Egolf
Winfried Martin

Convention

Winfried Martin - *Chairman*
Jack Alexander
Travers Hutchison

Auctions

Hanssen Schenker - *Chairman*
John Carvill
Walter Eickhorst
Maurice Lockwood

Credentials

Walter Oakes - *Chairman*
Marie Chaykowski

Audit

William Utley - *Chairman*
Pauline Fiala
Travers Hutchison

Election

Elsie Kara - *Chairman*
Roger Luce
Robert Clark

Awards

Charles Holetich - *Chairman*
Pauline Fiala
William Heard
Joel Margaretten
Max Peterson

*Gratuities, Donations and
Benevolences*

Lois Utley - *Chairman*
Alice Foster
Alvan Grant
Lourene Wishart
Maurice Lockwood
Joel Margaretten
Fr. John Fiala

Budget

Marie Chaykowski - *Chairman*
Walter Eickhorst
Walter Oakes
William Utley

Legal

William Utley - *Chairman*
Travers Hutchison
Clare Short

Membership

Charles Holetich - *Chairman*
John Carvill
Nancy Emerson
Albert Lumley
Walter Oakes
All regional vice-presidents

Nominations

Max Peterson - *Chairman*
John Alexander III
Mollie Pesata
Sarah Schenker
Lois Utley

Propagation and Distribution

John Alexander - *Chairman*
Fr. John Fiala
William Utley
William Heard

Resolutions

Albert Lumley - *Chairman*
Thomas Chieppo
Sue Ferguson

Publications

Walter Eickhorst - *Chairman*
Charles Holetich
Fr. John Fiala
Robert Clark

Seed Exchange

Roger Luce - *Chairman*
Elsie Kara
Lyle Littlefield

LILAC REGISTRATIONS 1978 & 1979*

Freek Vrugtman**

All correspondence concerned with more information or plant or propagating material of these cultivars should be directed to the various originators, describers or introducers, not to the Royal Botanical Gardens.

1978 LILAC REGISTRATIONS

Syringa 'Josée'

Originated by the late Dr. Georges Michel Morel (1916-1973) of Le Chesnay, France, and introduced and registered by Pépinières Minier S.A., B.P. 735, 49007 Angers, France. Seedling of (*S. velutina* x *S. microphylla*) x *S. meyeri*. (MORjos 060 F.). Registered with "Registre du Syndicat National des Obtenteurs de Nouveautés Horticoles de France" (December 20, 1971; No. 060). Trademark No. 3769 (July 19, 1971). Shrubby tree, rounded, reaching 1.3 to 1.5m; broader than tall. Leaves 2.5 to 3 cm long; inflorescences terminal; branches 10 to 20 cm long and 7 to 10 cm wide; flower diameter 4 to 5mm, rose-lilac in bud, lighter rose after opening. Very floriferous in spring with a few inflorescences developing before the winter. Winter-hardy in France. Adaptable to all soils.

Syringa julianae 'George Eastman'

Discovered by Mr. Robert B. Clark, Cattle Landing Road, RD 1, Box 288, Meredith, New Hampshire 03253, and described, introduced and registered by Reverend John L. Fiala, 7359 Branch Road, Medina, Ohio 44256, (See also: *Lilac Newsletter* 4(5): 9; May 1978). Open pollinated naturalized seedling (ca. 1967) of *S. julianae*. Very distinctive; deep reddish flower compared to pale purple of *S. j. Hers'*; spreading by underground stolons; arching branches, good bloom and growth. A chance naturalized seedling growing along the stream banks in Durand-Eastman Park in Rochester, New York. Named for George Eastman (1854-1932), founder of the Eastman Kodak Company.

Syringa vulgaris 'Lake Bled'

Discovered and collected in April 1973 at Lake Bled Mountain, near the town of Bled, Slovenia, Yugoslavia, and registered by Mr. Albert E. Lumley, 24 Harkness Road, Amherst, Massachusetts 01002. Flowers single, deeper red than is usual for common lilacs.

Syringa vulgaris 'David Gilfillan'

Probably an open-pollinated seedling (ca. 1960) selected in 1969 at Descanso Gardens. 1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada, California 91011. Described and registered by Mr. Frank Simerly, County of

Los Angeles Department of Arboreta and Botanic Gardens, 301 North Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia, California 91006. inflorescences to 28 cm long flowers 12 mm across. Bud color: (R.H.S. Colour Chart) Purple 77A-78A. Flower color: 84A-84C. Plant vigorous, floriferous and well adapted to mediterranean climate. Named for David J. Gilfillan, horticulturist and garden writer in Pasadena, California.

The following three cultivars were originated, described, introduced and registered by Mr. Kenneth Berdeen, Alewife Road, Route 35 Kennebunk, Maine 04043.

Syringa vulgaris 'Dianah Abbott'

Open-pollinated seedling; flowers single, large, light purple.

Syringa vulgaris 'Lee Jewett Walker'

'Lucie Baltet' x 'Cora Lyden'. Syn 'Mrs. Lee Jewett Walker' and "No. 7-22." Flowers double, coral-colored; floriferous.

Syringa vulgaris 'Olive May Cummings'

Open-pollinated seedling; flowers double, deep pink.

1979 LILAC REGISTRATION

Syringa oblata 'Melissa Oakes'

This new lilac cultivar was originated, described and registered by Mr. Walter W. Oakes, Box 315, Rumford, Maine 04276.

Flowers most nearly compare to cv. 'Fenelon'. Blooming time coincides with cvs. 'Anabel', 'Turgot' and other early hybrids, but later than 'Lamartine'. The foliage is typically waved. Distinctive characteristics; Flower buds deep rose, opening to medium pink, slowly lightening to light pink. Retains its colour for a long period of time. Does not have tendency to grow tall and sparse as do many of the *S. oblata* hybrids. Flowers produced in the terminal buds of many of the side branches as with *S. x chinensis*, *S. juliana* and *S. microphylla*. It does not produce abundant suckers.

* Contribution No. 41, Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

** Royal Botanical Gardens, Box 399, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8N 3H8

ADDENDUM

THE HISTORY OF SYRINGA VULGARIS 'PRIMROSE'

By FREEK VRUGTMAN and WALTER E. EICKHORST

The earliest mention of the yellow lilac appeared in the following note in THE GARDENER'S CHRONICLE, 2 July, 1949, issue (1).

A Yellow Lilac. -- A few weeks ago we received intimation that a yellow Lilac had appeared in Holland. We wrote asking Dr. Ruys, Royal Moorheim (sic) Nurseries, Dedemsvaart, if he could confirm the appearance of such a variety and he kindly replied to the effect that in February last, the Novelties Committee of the Royal Dutch Horticultural and Botanical Society inspected a yellow Lilac in the nurseries of Mr. G. Maarse, Aalsmeer, and granted it an Award of Merit on February 4 last. This novelty, named Yellow Wonder, is a bud sport from the variety Mdme. Marie Legraye and Mr. Maarse had about two dozen forced plants when the inspection took place. The colour of the buds is pale barium-yellow (*Hort. Col. Chart* 503/3); the open flowers are of similar colour but a slightly paler shade.

This appears to be the earliest mention in print. Further efforts to obtain information from the Novelties Committee of the Royal Dutch Horticultural and Botanical Society have been unsuccessful. (2). There is little doubt that the note in THE GARDENERS' CHRONICLE constitutes valid publication of the cultivar name 'Yellow Wonder'.

Mr. Jan Spek, a nurseryman from Boskoop, Holland, exhibited branches of *Syringa vulgaris* 'Primrose' at the 1950 Royal Horticultural Society's Chelsea Flower Show in London; an Award of Merit was made on 23 May of that year, and the announcement is accompanied by a good description (3.) Sometime between February 1949 and May 1950 the name had been changed from 'Yellow Wonder' to 'Primrose' since the flower colour was not a real "yellow" (4).

Prof. Richard Maatsch, formerly Director of the Institute for Floriculture, Technical University Hanover, West Germany, kindly lent us a letter, dated 30 December, 1950, from the firm of G. Maarse JBzn., Roses and Lilacs Nurseries, Aalsmeer, to Prof. Maatsch, telling the story of the 'Primrose' lilac (5). Following is an excerpt of the letter *in translation*:

As we already informed you in our letter of the 11th, PRIMROSE is a colour mutation of the well-known *Syringa* Mme. Marie Legraye. It is a striking fact that one has very rarely observed any mutation in lilacs in contrast, for example, to chrysanthemums, tulips, roses and so on. In winter

here in Aalsmeer hundreds of thousands of lilac shrubs are forced into bloom and if ever any sort of mutation in colour or state of bloom were to occur, it would be immediately detected when the flowers are cut and sorted.

The mutation we are talking about in PRIMROSE was at first not yet complete; in other words there was not a whole plant or a whole flowering branch of yellow colour, but in the winter of 1943 we discovered a flowering branch with four clusters of which only 1½ bloomed yellow. It was very probable that the mutation in the interior of the vegetative cell was not spread throughout the whole flowering branch. Where did it begin?

All the leaf-buds of the branch in question were removed, as also were the two white and the one partly yellow clusters. That left only the one yellow flower cluster. This was also cut off but not the part below on which small leaf-buds occurred. One of which we hoped would develop. The entire shrub was kept in the hothouse for the spring and summer and, as was hoped, there developed a small shoot at the place mentioned above. This shoot provided material to allow us to graft ten plants in the following year.

To our pleasure they all bloomed yellow, which provided proof that the mutation was not only vegetatively established but was also permanent.

On 21 April, 1951, Mr. Gerrit Maarse of Aalsmeer, originator, and Mr. Jan Spek of Boskoop, introducer, filed an application for a United States Plant Patent; Plant Patent No. 1,108 was granted on 24 June, 1952. Introduction into North America was made by Wayside Gardens of Mentor, Ohio, who announced 'Primrose' lilac in its 1953 catalogue (pp. 4 & 148). U.S. Plant Patent No. 1,108 became "public property" on 25 June 1969.

Sometime during the twelve months period October 1952 to September 1953 the Royal Dutch Horticultural and Botanical Society awarded 'Primrose' a First Class Certificate (6).

Article 46 of the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants - 1980 states that; "When a cultivar name is generally used instead of any earlier legitimate name of the same cultivar, the former is retained as the correct name if the use of the latter would lead to confusion. If a registration authority exists, such action may be taken only with its approval." Since the cultivar name 'Primrose' has been used almost exclusively since 1950 it should therefore be retained.

Received for publication January 21, 1981.

* Registrar, IRA *Syringa*, Royal Botanical Gardens, Box 399, Hamilton, Canada L8N

3H8

APPENDIX

1. Anonymous 1949. A Yellow Lilac. The Gardeners' Chronicle No. 3260, p.1 (July 2, 1949).
2. Eickhorst, Walter E. 1977. Letter to the Royal Dutch Horticultural and Botanical Society. November 25.
Marcus, Loes. 1977. Letter to Freek Vrugtman. December 7. (Copies of letters cited are deposited in the lilac-registration files at the Royal Botanical Gardens).
3. Anonymous. 1950. *Syringa vulgaris* 'Primrose' A.M. Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society 75 (9):413 (September 1950); see also 75 (9); lxxxvii (September 1950) and 76 (5): 152-153 & Fig. 78 (May 1951).
4. Grootendorst, Herman J. 1977. Letter to Walter Eickhorst and Freek Vrugtman. December 14.
5. Maarse, G. JBzn. 1950. Letter to Professor Maatsch. December 30.
6. Anonymous. 1954. Tuinbouwgids 11:440.

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