

# Lilac Newsletter

Vol. X, No. 9, September, 1984

INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY

*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.

Articles printed in this publication are the views and opinions of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent those of the editor or the *International Lilac Society*.

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#### MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION

Single annual .....	\$ 10.00 (as of January, 1984)
Family .....	12.50
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\*Mail membership dues to I.L.S. Secretary

WORLD'S LILAC COLLECTIONS

Where are they and what do they grow?

Starting with this issue of Lilac Newsletter we will bring you the information about the World's Lilac Collection and continue on as information becomes available.

The format of our questionnaire, which has been distributed to various known collection is as follows:

Name of the collection \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Short history of the collection (when started, reasons)

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is the collection (check one) Public?  Private?

Is it open to public? Yes  No ; hours from \_\_\_\_\_  
to \_\_\_\_\_; by appointment only

arranged by telephone (  ) \_\_\_\_\_ or letter \_\_\_\_\_

Peak of bloom for majority of lilacs is from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach a list of lilacs currently on display.

Please attach a map if available showing how to get to your lilac collection.

Person(s) name and address if further information or clarifications are needed \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

THE KATIE OSBORNE LILAC GARDEN

at the Royal Botanical Gardens

Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

About 1 km east from the Katie Osborne Lilac Collection, where Old Guelph Road underpasses Highway 403, was the location of the Royal Botanical Gardens' first lilac collection. In the fall of 1960 and spring of 1961, the collection (approximately 100 different lilacs) was moved to its present location in the Arboretum, which was cleared from existing woods. Apart from occasional levelling for the grass path, the existing ground contours are those of the original natural landscape. In 1965, the collection caught the interest of a Gardens' friend whose subsequent generosity resulted in a greatly expanded garden. In the Katie Osborne Lilac Collection, at present are displayed 637 different kinds of lilacs, which makes it the largest such collection in Canada and second largest in the world. It stands in memory of one who was fond of lilacs and had a special interest in the Royal Botanical Gardens.

Different exposures within the 'Lilac Dell' are used to grow specific groups of lilacs such as: Single or double French hybrids, Prestoniae hybrids, early flowering hybrids, species, etc. Though the lilacs are sun-loving plants, occasional trees from the original forest were left as an aesthetic contribution to the rolling grounds thus creating a pleasant environment throughout the year.

Growing Lilacs

In general a good time to plant lilacs is in the autumn from the time leaves colour to freeze-up and in the spring from the time ground is frost-free until bud break. Planting early in November is

preferred to late November or early December, but the second half of April has given us the best results.

Lilacs prefer open sunny location, neutral or slightly alkaline soil, with good drainage. They will thrive even in soils of low nutrient value. Fertilization of lilacs if grown in good soil is not normally necessary but if used it should be high in phosphate such as 0-20-0; 4-12-8, etc. The best time for application of fertilizer on lilacs in our climatic region is mid-May. If only available planting location is of heavy clay, or poorly drained soil, then plant lilac on mounds.

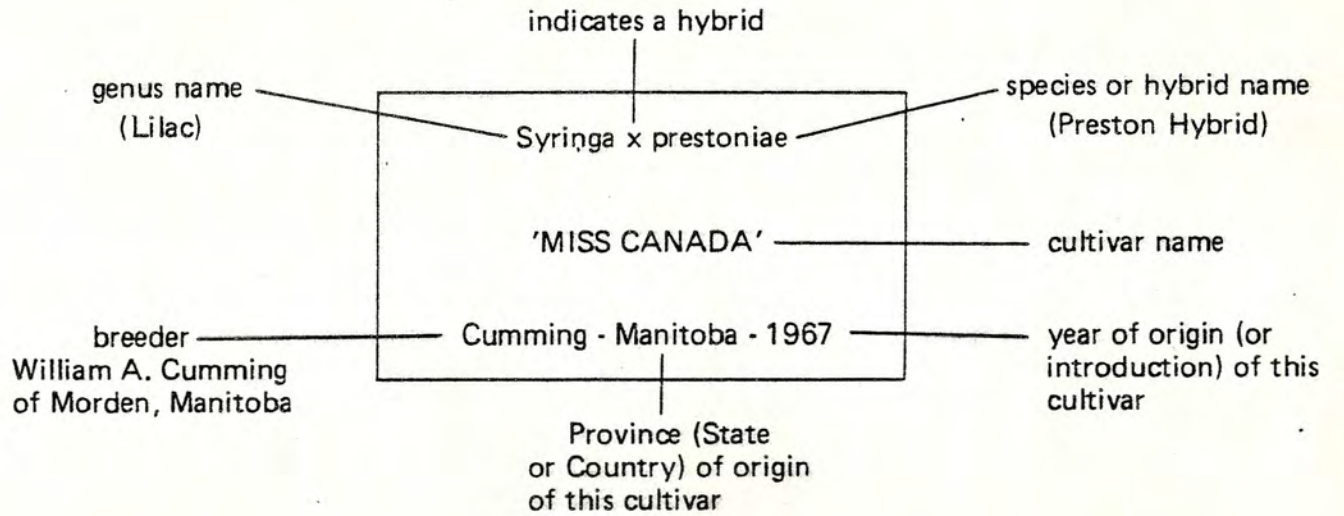
Flower buds for one year's bloom are formed in June, July and August of the previous year. It is good practice to cut off all the old bloom so that the nutrition is diverted from unwanted seed production to flower bud formation for next year. Usually years with good vegetative growth are followed by a poor flower show the following year and alternate bloom in lilac is quite common.

Oystershell scale and lilac borer are two of the most common lilac pests in this climatic region. Since the borers attack lilac stems and branches one inch in diameter and larger, it is good practice to grow multi-stem lilacs (6-8 stems per bush), and periodically remove older stems as the younger stems take over. Oystershell scales are sucking insects attached to the bark of the younger wood. These insect pests may be chemically controlled.

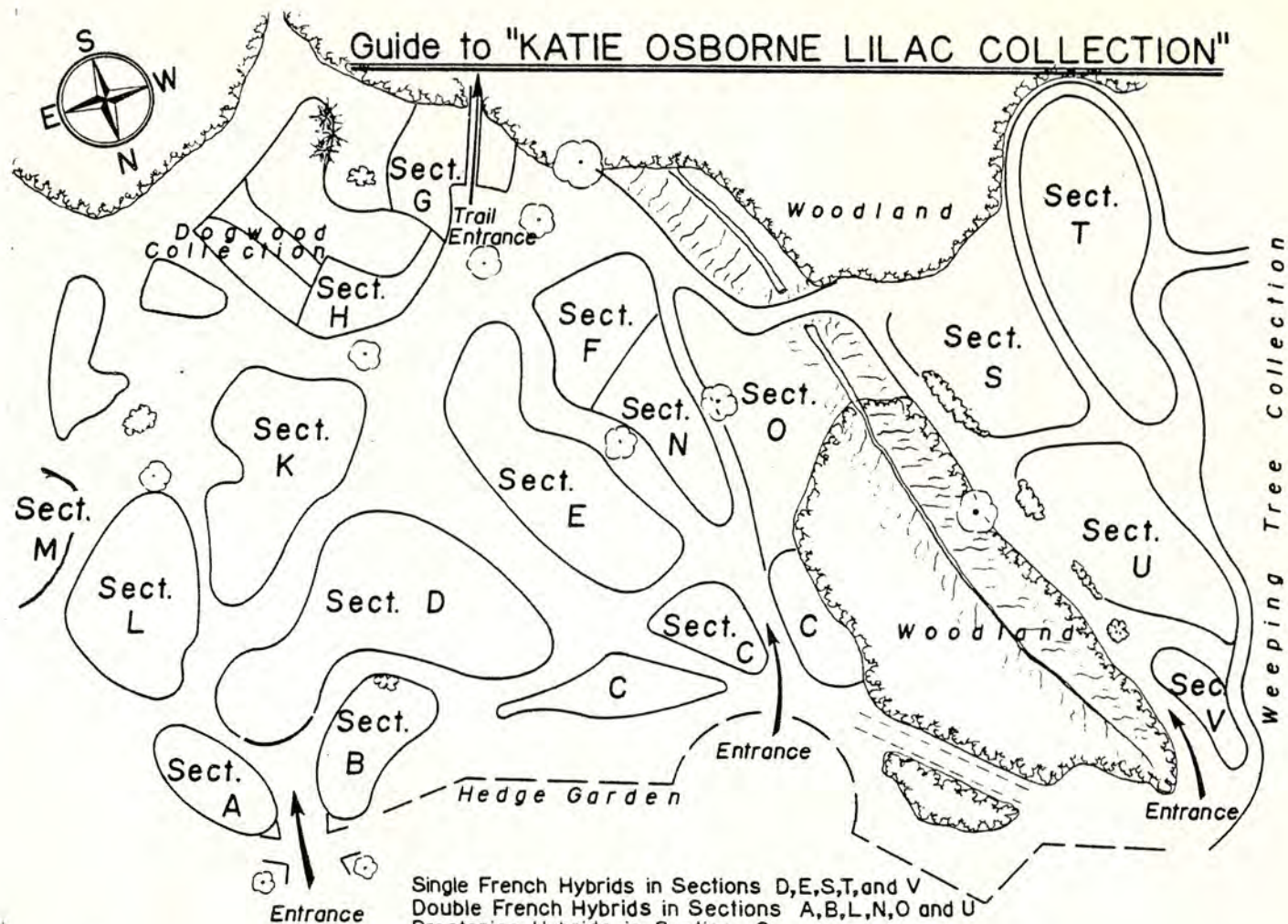
Pruning and thinning of lilacs is done in our collection during the month of June, at the same time the old bloom is cut off. Lilacs in our collection are deliberately kept at 6-9 ft. height where their bloom may be more appreciated. Rejuvenation of lilacs should be done during winter months.

Guide to Labelling in the Lilac Dell

EXAMPLE



# Guide to "KATIE OSBORNE LILAC COLLECTION"



Single French Hybrids in Sections D, E, S, T, and V  
 Double French Hybrids in Sections A, B, L, N, O and U  
 Prestoniae Hybrids in Section C  
 Hyacinthiflora Hybrids in Sections F and K  
 Species and misc. Hyb. in Sections G, H and K

C.H.

ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS — HAMILTON, CANADA

List of Lilacs in the Katie Osborne Lilac Collection

SYRINGA VULGARIS CULTIVARS  
(SINGLE AND DOUBLE FRENCH HYBRIDS)

Name	Section	Name	Section	Name	Section
cv. (No. 71)	U	'FRANK KLAGER'	S	'MME. AUGUSTE GOUCHAULT'	L
cv. (Sport of 'SENSATION')	S	'FRANK PATERSON'	E	'MME. BRIOT'	T
'A. B. LAMBERTON'	O	'FRAU WILHELM PFITZER'	T	'MME. CASIMIR PERIER'	L
'ABEL CARRIERE'	U	'FRED PAYNE'	D	'MME. CHARLES SOUCHET'	T
'ADAM MICKIEWICZ'	U	'FRITZ'	U	'MME. DE MILLER'	U
'ADELAIDE DUNBAR'	O	'FUERST LIECHTENSTEIN'	S	'MME. FELIX'	S
'ADMIRAL FARRAGUT'	S	'GALINA ULANOVA'	D	'MME. FLORENT STEPMAN'	E
'AGINCOURT BEAUTY'	D	'GASTELLO'	V	'MME. F. MOREL'	D
'ALBA GRANDIFLORA'	S	'GEANT DES BATAILLES'	E	'MME. HENRI GUILLAUD'	U
'ALBA VIRGINALIS'	S	'GEHEIMRAT HEYDER'	V	'MME. LEMOINE'	A
'ALEKSEI MARES'EY'	V	'GENERAL ELWELL S. OTIS'	U	'MME. LEON SIMON'	U
'ALEXANDER HAMILTON'	L	'GENERAL GRANT'	T	'MME. MOSER'	D
'ALINE MOQUERIS'	E	'GENERAL JOHN PERSHING'	N	'MONGE'	D
'ALLISON GRAY'	D	'GENERAL KITCHENER'	N	'MONS J. DE MESSEMAEKER'	T
'ALPHONSE BOUVIER'	L	'GENERAL SHERMAN'	E	'MONS. LEON MATHIEU'	S
'ALPHONSE LAVALLEE'	L	'GEORGE W. ALDRIDGE'	T	'MONS. LEPAGE'	T
'AMBASSADEUR'	D	'GEORGES BELLAIR'	L	'MONS. MAXIME CORNU'	L
'AMETHYST'	D	'GERRIE SCHOONENBERG'	D	'MONT BLANC'	D
'AMI SCHOTT'	A	'GILBERT'	D	'MONTAIGNE'	L
'AMOR'	D	'GISMONDA'	O	'MONUMENT'	O
'ANDENKEN AN LUDWIG SPAETH'	D	'GLOIRE DE LA ROCHELLE'	T	'MOONGLOW'	D
'ANDRE CSIZIK'	E	'GLOIRE DE LORRAINE'	E	'MOONLIGHT'	M
'ANGEL WHITE'	D	'GLOIRE DE MOULINS'	S	'MRS. CALVIN COOLIDGE'	T
'ANNA NICKLES'	D	'GLOIRE D'AALSMEER'	D	'MRS. EDWARD HARDING'	L
'ANNE SHIACH'	E	'GLORY'	E	'MRS. FANNIE W. HEATH'	L
'ANNE TIGHE'	N	'GODRON'	L	'MRS. HARRY BICKLE'	D
'ARCHEVEQUE'	U	'GOLIATH'	T	'MRS. JOHN S. WILLIAMS'	E
'ARTHUR WILLIAM PAUL'	N	'GORTENZIYA'	N	'MRS. MCKELVEY'	N
'ASTRA'	M	'GRACE ORTHWAITE'	E	'MRS. TRAPMAN'	D
'BANQUISE'	L	'GRAND DUC CONSTANTIN'	B	'MRS. WATSON WEBB'	T
'BELLE DE NANCY'	L	'HEATHER'	E	'MRS. W.E. MARSHALL'	D
'BERTHA PHAIR'	L	'HELEN SCHLOEN'	E	'MY FAVORITE'	O
'BETH TURNER'	E	'HELENE AGATHE KEESEN'	E	'NADEZHDA'	U
'BIALA ANNA'	O&T	'HENRI MARTIN'	L	'NANCY FRICK'	S
'BICOLOR'	S	'HENRI ROBERT'	B	'NAUDIN'	N
'BLEUATRE'	D	'HENRY CLAY'	T	'NEGRO'	E
'BLUE DELIGHT'	T	'HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW'	O	'NELLIE MARIA'	D
'BOGDAN KHML'NITSKII'	U	'HERMAN EILERS'	T	'NIGHT'	T
'BOGDAN PRZYRZYKOWSKI'	O	'HIPPOLYTE MARINGER'	T	'NOISETTIANA ALBA'	E
'BOULE AZUREE'	D	'HIRAM H. EDGERTON'	B	'OAKES DOUBLE WHITE'	O
'BOUSSINGAULT'	U	'HOSANNA'	U	'OBELISQUE'	B
'BRIGHT CENTENNIAL'	D	'HUGO DE VRIES'	D	'OGNI DONBASSA'	U
'BURGEMEESTER LOGGERS'	S	'HUGO KOSTER'	D	'OGNI MOSKVY'	E
'BURGEMEESTER VOLLER'	E	'HUGO MAYER'	E	'OLD ROSE'	E
'C. B. VAN NES'	D	'INTERLUDE'	N	'OLIVE MAY CUMMINGS'	B
'CALVIN C. LANEY'	T	'I. V. MICHURIN'	U	'OLIVIER DE SERRES'	L
'CAPITAINE BALTET'	E	'JACQUES CALLOT'	T	'OSTANKINO'	T
'CAPITAINE PERRAULT'	O	'JAMES BERDEEN'	E	'OSTRANDER'	N
'CARLEY'	T	'JAMES BOOTH'	D	'OTHELLO'	S
'CARMINE'	S	'JAMES STUART'	D	'PAMIAI O S.M. KIROVE'	A&U
'CAROLINE FOLEY'	S	'JAN VAN TOL'	S	'PARADISE'	T
'CHAMPLAIN'	N	'JEAN BART'	O	'PASTEUR'	D
		'JEANNE D'ARC'	A	'PATRICK HENRY'	L
		'JESSIE GARDNER'	T	'PAUL HARIOT'	B
		'JOAN DUNBAR'	T	'PAUL THIRION'	A
		'JOHANN MENSING'	T	'PEERLESS PINK'	S
		'JONKHEER G.P. VAN TETS'	E	'PERLE VON STUTTGART'	U
				'SOUV. DE ALICE HARDING'	O
				'SOUV. DE CLAUDIUS GRAINDORGE'	E
				'SOUVENIR DE GASPARD CALLOT'	L
				'SOUVENIR DE L. THIBAUT'	U
				'SOUV. DE MME. EDMOND KENIS'	O
				'SOUV. DE MME. LOUIS GIELIS'	V
				'SOUVENIR DE SIMONE'	O
				'STADTGARTNER ROTHPLETZ'	L
				'STEFAN MAKOWIECKI'	T
				'SUMERKI'	S
				'SUSAN B. ANTHONY'	T
				'SWEET CHARITY'	D
				'TAGLIONI'	U
				'TANKIST'	M
				'TARAS BULBA'	U
				'THOMAS A. EDISON'	T
				'THOMAS JEFFERSON'	D
				'THUNBERG'	B
				'TITA'	U
				'TODMORDEN'	D
				'TOURNEFORT'	U
				'TOUSSAINT-L'OUVERTURE'	D
				'TRISTE BARBARO'	D
				'TRUE BLUE'	E
				'TURENNE'	S
				'UTRO MOSKVY'	N
				'VALENTINA GRIZODOBOVA'	U&L
				'VALETTEANA'	N
				'VAN AERSCHOTT'	S
				'VERSALIENSIS'	S
				'VERSCHAFFELTII'	V
				'VESTALE'	D
				'VIRGINITE'	O
				'VIVIAN EVANS'	D
				'VIVIANO-MOREL'	U
				'VOLCAN'	T
				'VOORZITTER DIX'	V
				'WALDECK-ROUSSEAU'	L
				'WEDDLE'	U
				'WHITE SURPRISE'	E
				'WHITE SWAN'	S
				'WILLIAM C. BARRY'	E
				'WILLIAM ROBINSON'	U
				'WILLIAM S. RILEY'	E
				'WOODLAND BLUE'	D
				'WOODLAND VIOLET'	T
				'W.T. LEE'	L
				'YUBILEINAYA'	E
				'ZNAMIA LENINA'	E
				'ZULU'	T



CHARLES BALLEE  
CHARLES JOLY  
CHARLES SARGENT  
CHARLES X  
CHARLOTTE MORGAN  
CHRISTOPHE COLOMB  
CHRIS  
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CITY OF KALAMA  
CITY OF LONGVIEW  
CLARA COCHET  
CLARA  
CLARENCE D. VAN ZANDT  
COERULEA SUPERBA  
COLBERT  
COLMARIENSIS  
COL. WM. R. PLUM  
COMTE ADRIEN DE MONTEBELLO  
COMTE DE KERCHOVE  
COMTE HORACE DE CHOISEUL  
CONDORCET  
CONDO  
CONQUET  
CORA BRANDT  
CORA LYDEN  
CORINNE  
CRAMPPEL  
CREPUSCULE  
CROIX DE BRAHY  
DANTON  
DAPPLED DAWN  
DAWN  
DE HUMBOLDT  
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EDMOND BOISSIER  
EDOUARD ANDRE  
EDWARD J. GARDNER  
EKENHOLM  
ELLIE-MARIE  
EMIL LIEBIG  
EMILE LEMOINE  
ERZHERZOG JOHANN  
ETHEL CHILD  
ETHIOPIA  
ETNA  
ETOILE DE MAI  
EXCELLENT  
FALE BALTYSKI  
FRAGMENT  
FLORA  
FRAICHEUR

PIERRE JOIGNEUX  
PINK MIST  
PINKIE  
PIONER  
PLANCHON  
POL ROBSON  
POM POM  
PRESIDENT CARNOT  
PRESIDENT FALLIERES  
PRESIDENT GREVIN  
PRESIDENT HARDING  
PRESIDENT JOHN ADAMS  
PRESIDENT LEBRUN  
PRESIDENT LINCOLN  
PRESIDENT LOUBET  
PRESIDENT MASSART  
PRESIDENT MONROE  
PRESIDENT POINCARRE  
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PRESIDENT VIGER  
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PYRIMIDAL  
QUADRICOLOR  
REAMUR  
REBBUD  
REINE ELISABETH  
REINE MARGUERITE  
RENE JARRY-DESLOGES  
RENONCULE  
RIET BRUIDEGOM  
ROCHAMBEAU  
ROCHESTER  
ROI ALBERT  
ROMANCE  
RONSARD  
ROSACE  
ROUGE DE TRIANON  
RUBELLA PLENA  
RUBRA INSIGNIS  
RUHM VON HORSTENSTEIN  
RUSTICA  
S.V. LAVROV  
SAINT JOAN  
SAINT MARGARET  
SARAH SANDS  
SCHERMERHORNII  
SCIPION COCHET  
SENATEUR VOLLAND  
SENSATION  
SHOLOKHOV  
SIBIRICA  
SILVER KING  
SLATER'S ELEGANCE  
SOBRA  
MME. ANTOINE BUCHNER

PIERRE JOIGNEUX  
PINK MIST  
PINKIE  
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PRINCE NOTGER  
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PRINCESSE CLEMENTINE  
PRINZESSIN KLOTILDE  
PRISCILLA  
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RIET BRUIDEGOM  
ROCHAMBEAU  
ROCHESTER  
ROI ALBERT  
ROMANCE  
RONSARD  
ROSACE  
ROUGE DE TRIANON  
RUBELLA PLENA  
RUBRA INSIGNIS  
RUHM VON HORSTENSTEIN  
RUSTICA  
S.V. LAVROV  
SAINT JOAN  
SAINT MARGARET  
SARAH SANDS  
SCHERMERHORNII  
SCIPION COCHET  
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SENSATION  
SHOLOKHOV  
SIBIRICA  
SILVER KING  
SLATER'S ELEGANCE  
SOBRA  
MME. ANTOINE BUCHNER

SYRINGA X HYACINTHIFLORA CULTIVARS  
(D) = S. OBLATA DILATATA X S. VULGARIS  
(G) = S. OBLATA GIRALDII X S. VULGARIS

Name	Section
'ALICE EASTWOOD' (G)	F
'ANABEL' (D)	K
'ARIZONA' (D)	K
'BERRYER' (G)	K
'BLUE HYACINTH' (G)	F
'BOUNTIFUL' (G)	F
'BUFFON' (G)	K
'CAMPUS' (D)	F
'CATINAT' (G)	K
'CHARLES NORDTWE' (D)	K
'CHURCHILL' (D)	K
'CLARKE'S GIANT' (G)	F
'CLAUDE BERNARD' (G)	F
'DAPHNE PINK' (D)	K
'DESCARTES' (G)	F
'DOCTOR CHADWICK' (D)	K
'ESTHER STALEY' (G)	F
'EVANGELINE' (D)	K
'EXCEL' (D)	K
'FANTASY' (G)	F
'FELLENBERG' (G)	F
'FRASER' (D)	K
'GERTRUDE LESLIE' (D)	K
'GRACE MACKENZIE' (D)	K
'GRACE' (G)	F
'HYACINTHIFLORA PLENA'	K
'JEWEL' (D)	G
'LAMARTINE' (G)	F
'LAURENTIAN' (D)	K
'LOUVAIN' (D)	K
'LOUVOIS' (G)	F
'MAIDEN'S BLUSH' (D)	K
'MAUREN' (G)	F
'MINNEHAHA' (D)	K
'MIRABEAU' (G)	F
'MONTESQUIEU' (G)	F
'MOUNT BAKER' (D)	K
'NECKER' (G)	F
'NOKOMIS' (D)	K
'NORAH' (G)	F
'PASCAL' (G)	F
'PATRICIA' (G)	F
'PEGGY' (G)	F
'PINK CLOUD' (G)	K
'PINK SPRAY' (D)	F
'POCAHONTAS' (G)	F
'PURPLE GLORY' (G)	K
'ROWANCROFT PINK' (G)	F
'ROYAL PURPLE' (D)	K
'SCOTIA' (G)	F
'SISTER JUSTINA' (D)	K
'SPLENDOR' (G)	K
'SUMMER SKIES' (G)	F
'SUNSET' (G)	K
'SWARTHMORE' (D)	K
'THE BRIDE' (D)	K
'TOM TAYLOR' (D)	K
'TURGOT' (G)	F
'VAUBAN' (G)	F
'VILLARS' (G)	F
'WHITE HYACINTH' (G)	K

SYRINGA X PRESTONIAE CULTIVARS

Name	Section	Name	Section
'ALICE ROSE FOSTER'	C	'JESSICA'	C
'ALICE'	C	'JULIET'	C
'ARIEL'	C	'KATHERINA'	C
'BASIA'	C	'LUCETTA'	C
'BEACON'	C	'MAYBELLE FARNUM'	C
'CALPHURNIA'	C	'MIRANDA'	C
'CELIA'	C	'NERISSA'	C
'CHARMIAN'	C	'NIKE'	C
'CONSTANCE'	C	'NOCTURNE'	C
'DAWN'	C	'OBERON'	C
'DESDEMONA'	C	'OCTAVIA'	C
'DONALD WYMAN'	C	'OLIVIA'	C
'DORCAS'	C	'OPHELIA'	C
'ELINOR'	C	'PATIENCE'	C
'ETHEL M. WEBSTER'	C	'PAULINA'	C
'FERNA ALEXANDER'	C	'PORTIA'	C
'FRANCISCA'	C	'REGAN'	C
'FREEDOM'	C	'ROMEO'	C
'HANDEL'	C	'SILVIA'	C
'HECLA'	C	'TITANIA'	C
'HELEN'	C	'URSULA'	C
'HIAWATHA'	C	'VALERIA'	C
'ISABELLA'	C	'VIOLA'	C
'JAGA'	C	'W.T. MACOUN'	C

SYRINGA CULTIVARS OF OTHER INTERSPECIFIC HYBRIDS

Name	Section
'ALBIDA' (S. sweginzowii x S. tomentella)	K
'GERMINAL' (S. x henryi x S. tomentella)	H
'HEDIN' (S. villosa x S. sweginzowii)	G
'HUNTING TOWER' (S. villosa x S. sweginzowii)	K
'JOSEE' ((S. patula x S. microphylla) x S. meyeri)	H
'KIM' (S. josikaea x S. ?)	H
'MISS CANADA' (S. x josiflexa 'REDWINE' x S. x prestoniae 'HIAWATHA')	C
'PRAIRIAL' (S. x henryi x S. tomentella)	K
'SKINNERI' (S. pubescens x S. patula)	K

SPECIES AND MISCELLANEOUS HYBRIDS

Name	Section	Name	Section
+ correllata	G	villosa	K
emodi 'AUREA'	H	'AUREA'	K
'VARIEGATA'	H	'BRETSCHNEIDERI'	K
Josikaea	G	'CHARLES HEPBURN'	K
'EXIMIA'	G	'ROSEA'	K
'H. ZABEL'	H	vulgaris var. coerulea	G
'PALLIDA'	H	wolfii	G
'ROSEA'	H	cv. (pink form)	G
julianae	G	x reflexa 'HAGNY'	G
komarowii	H	x chinensis	K
laciniata	N	f. bicolor	K
x pinnatifolia	K	'ALBA'	K
meyeri	G	'LE TROYES'	K
'PALIBIN'	K	'METENSIS'	K
microphylla 'SUPERBA'	K	'ORCHID BEAUTY'	H
oblata	G	'PRESIDENT HAYES'	K
var. alba	H	'SAUGEANA'	H
var. dilatata	G	x diversifolia 'NOUVEAU'	K
var. giraldii	G	'WILLIAM H. JUDD'	K
var. giraldii 'NANA'	F	x henryi 'LUTECE'	K
'MELISSA OAKES'	K	x josiflexa 'ANNA AMHOFF'	C
patula	G	'BELLICENT'	H
cv. (pink form)	G	'ELAINE'	H
pekinensis	C	'ENID'	H
'PENDULA'	K	'GUINEVERE'	G
potaninii	G	'JESSE HEPLER'	G
reflexa	K	'LYNETTE'	H
reticulata var. reticulata	G	'NELLIE BEAN'	C
var. amurensis	G	x nanceiana 'FLOREAL'	K
'IVORY SILK'	G	'RUTILANT'	G
sweginzowii	G	x persica	K
'DENSIFLORA'	G	'ALBA'	G
'LARK SONG'	H	x sweginzowii	G
tigerstedtii	K	yunnanensis	K&G
tomentella	G	var. rosea	K
'ROSEA'	G	'ALBA'	K
		'PROPHECY'	H

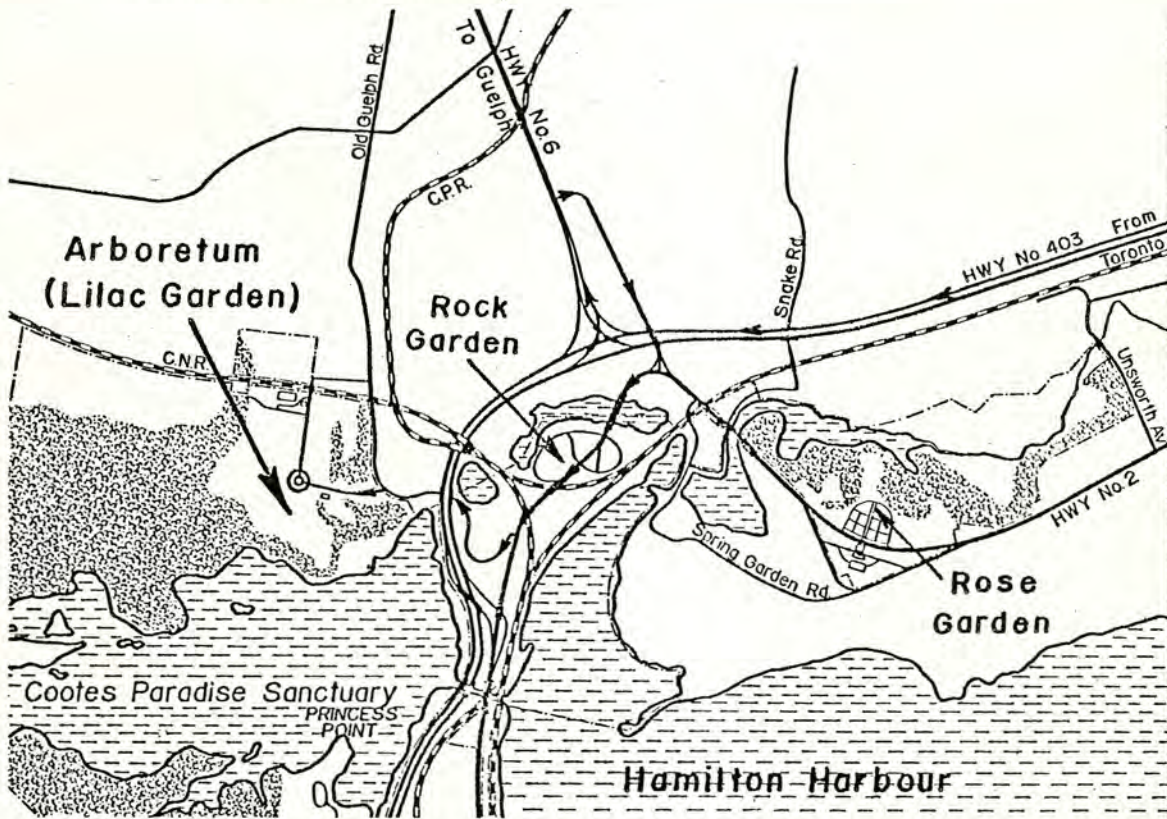
There are 637 taxa (species, varieties, hybrids & cultivars) in the collection.

April 1984

Compiled by: L. Lawrence & C. Holetich

HOW TO GET THERE

The arrows indicate the route.



The collection is public, as part of the Royal Botanical Gardens, open 7 days a week from dawn to dusk. Visits are free. Parking fees are collected only once a year during Lilac Concert - on a Sunday. The peak of bloom varies from May 22 to June 5. For further information write to Charles D. Holetich, Arboriculturist and Plant Records Coordinator, c/o Royal Botanical Gardens, Box 399, Hamilton, Ontario Canada L8N 3H8

A PAIR OF LILAC NOVELTIES FROM FALCONSKEAPE

by Robert B. Clark, Meredith, NH

The 1984 spring in the northeastern States was gradual, that is, no unseasonable hot spells to stimulate lilac buds into early bloom. Instead, temperatures hovered in the 40s and 50s Fahrenheit with many overcast days and plenteous rains (indeed, we drove through flooded highways enroute the thirteenth annual meeting at Burlington). The blooming season was delayed in some localities by a week to ten days or more. In northeastern Ohio, moreover, one week before bloom, when flower clusters were already set to elongate and leaf shoots as well, an overnight frost struck, causing wilting to tender shoots and subsequent bacterial blight. By contrast, in New England a "January thaw" came in February for ten days or so. The resulting temperature drop killed flower buds on many (not all) Forsythias, Fortune's rhododendron, florists' hydrangea, Kerria and similar tender exotics. Furthermore, deer browse occurred on certain choice lilacs 2-3 feet tall, as well as hobblebush viburnum, mountain laurel and of course, yew. Each spring is different. That's what makes gardening so challenging.

This year I was able to visit several lilac gardens. After driving all Sunday afternoon, May 20th, in the rain I reached Grape Hill Farm, Clyde, NY to see the Utley two-acre collection. Bill had mowed the grass and I was able to admire and sniff the fresh lilacs. Lemoine's early hybrid 'Vauban', a fragrant double bluish lilac, was the only fully opened lilac. Bill's oldest plants, about seventeen years, are now above one's head in height, but he has been far-sighted to allow space enough between plants so that you can walk without being brushed

by the foliage. He is constantly making improvements, and we shall be looking forward to our Society's second visit in 1988, the year of Highland Park's centennial.

At Middleburg, NY I visited the late Judge Walter Bliss's extensive lilac collection above the town and overlooking the Schoharie valley in a light extolled by Washington Irving describing the mystery of Catskill scenery. It was evening and the sky was clearing after showers. The view was to the north. Clifflike hills closed in the valley and its village and farms. Lilacs are seen to best advantage in subdued light. Featured prominently was Maarse's 'Primrose' at a distance across a mowed lawn amid some one-hundred Lemoine French hybrid lilacs, among them 'Katherine Havemeyer', 'Belle de Nancy', 'Montaigne' and 'President Grevy'.

The Holden Arboretum at Mentor, OH has a large collection of lilacs in extensive plantations not yet open to the public. There I saw the pink form of 'Lucie Baltet' (the coppery coloured form was seen at Clyde a couple of days earlier). The temperature was in the 80s F. and lilac petals were unfolding rapidly.

By far the most extensive and interesting lilac collection today is that at Falconskeape, the experimental garden of Fr. Fiala at Medina, OH (visited by ILS in 1980). Here literally are thousands of lilacs of various pedigree, multibred and/or colchicine-treated seedlings, some of which have received cultivar names.

In moist seasons blue lilacs are much bluer. Since this spring has been one of the wettest springs in memory, I shouldn't have been so surprised and delighted to see Fr. Fiala's 'Wedgewood Blue' which, in my humble opinion, is now to be reckoned the standard blue lilac. Blue is one of the cool colours which disappears in twilight. Not "Wedgewood Blue" seen across a spacious lawn in dim light of overcast skies. This cultivar is another in the

'Rochester' series raised by Fr. Fiala and its colour has substance, that is, it doesn't fade.

The second of Fr. Fiala's recent originations is a pink quadrobred (hybrid with four pedigreed parents): 'Rochester' seedling X 'Edward J. Gardner' X 'Rochester' X 'Lucie Baltet'. The flower cluster is long and erect, like its parent 'Rochester'. Expanding buds are like pink pearls. Expanded florets are huge double pink rosettes. It's name? Fr. Fiala honors me by naming this superb lilac 'Professor R.B. Clark'. At the Burlington meeting Orville Stewart (whom we were delighted to see along with his better half Ellen) who was asking around for personal single choices was amazed when I without hesitation nominated this Fiala origination, knowing full well that it takes ten years to test novelties, and forsaking my hitherto favorite 'Leon Gambetta'.

Owing to rain while passing by Rochester, I did not avail myself the pleasure of visiting Highland Park's Lilactime festival; however I'm told that Kolesnikov's 'Congo' seedling 'Znamya Lenina' this season is deep red, crimson, ruby whichever description best fits its glowing colour.

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BIT OF WIT

Tact is the rare ability to keep silent while two friends are arguing and you know that both of them are wrong.

QUESTION AND ANSWER

(Members who have any questions concerning lilacs please submit them to me and we will use them in the Newsletter. Those who are answering previous months questions also send them to me so that we can share the information with the rest of the membership.)

Ed.

Question:

When we move lilacs, often we find Periodic Cicada Nymphs among the roots. I would guess that this may be a unique problem. Generally bushes where there is a large concentration have small leaves and would not be described as "Very Healthy". Any solutions? I have started trying PROXOL injected to 18 inches (the depth we find most of it).

Joel A. Weinert, Supervisor  
Lilacia Park  
150 South Park  
Lombard, IL 60148

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BITS OF WIT

Try to follow two roads and you will arrive nowhere.

A man wrapped up in himself makes a pretty poor bundle.

PREVENTING BACTERIA AND FUNGUS IN LILACS

Most damage caused by bacteria and fungus can be prevented by proper location and by burning diseased wood and fallen leaves. Mildew is common but harmless. Bacterial blight causes black spots on the leaves and young shoots during cold, wet weather in May and June. A less common fungus causes brown leaf spots; the young shoots die back and there may be an infection of the root and crown.

Botrytis, the common gray mould, usually appears after injury from frost, chilling, etc. For all the above, spraying or dusting with one of the new organic fungicides should be done as soon as leaves open, and diseased twigs should be removed and burned.

From writings of John C. Wister

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