



Lilac Newsletter

Vol. XI, No. 8, August, 1985

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
Family	12.50
Sustaining	20.00
Institutional/Commercial	25.00
Life	150.00

*Mail membership dues to I.L.S. Secretary

Confessions Of A New Editor

The July issue of the Newsletter is now history and I haven't received any violent complaints so it appears you were willing to put up with my mistakes as a first time editor. It all seemed so simple as Charles Holetich was explaining it in his clear dulcet tones. The plan was laid out, there was plenty of material from the just completed convention and supplies were at hand -- and then I got greedy and tried to squeeze too much on the pages. That's why there were no page numbers. The stencil maker had to decide whether to cut off the page numbers or some of the text and it wisely chose numbers. You will notice that this issue has all its numbers so we are learning however slowly.

The only problem with being a slow learner is that time is quickly slipping away. In September I turn back into a college professor (is this a step up or a step down from editor?) and we still have no permanent editor. Who do you know who would like to be editor? How about you? Write - even if its only to explore the possibility of considering the gleam of an idea. The Newsletter is important to the Society and deserves someone who can give it its proper tender loving care.

Owen M. Rogers
Editor very pro tem

PART II

by

Robert B. Clark

Having covered the descriptive names in the first installment, I turn to commemorative names which Victor Lemoine bestowed upon his choicest seedlings. Since the list is long, I have divided it into four sections: historic personages from the 15th to 18th centuries; prominent personalities of Republican France; scientists including horticulturists and gardeners through the 19th century, and contemporary personages whose dates and biographies are sketchy.

HISTORIC PERSONAGES FROM 15th TO 18th CENTURIES

- 88 Jeanne d'Arc, 1412-1431, "Maid of France"
- 27 Christophe Colomb, 1452-1506, Genoese navigator
- 187 Savonarole, Giralamo, 1452-1498, Florentine reformer
- 114 Magellan, Ferdinand, 1480-1521, Portuguese circumnavigator, named the Pacific Ocean
- 175 Rabelais, Francois, ca. 1494-1553, French satirist-humorist
- 29 Claude de Lorraine, first Duke of Guise, 1527, grandfather of Marie Stuart, Queen of Scots, great grandfather of James II of England
- 181 Ronsard, Pierre de, 1524-1585, French poet

- 143 Montaigne, Michel Eyquem de, 1533-1592, French essayist
- 155 Serres, Olivier de, 1539-1619, French agronomist, author of "Theatre d' Agriculture" (ca. 1600)
- 22 Champlain, Samuel de, 1567-1635, French explorer, Founder of Quebec
- 117 Bassompierre, Francois, Baron de, 1579-1646, courtier, writer of memoirs, Marshal of France
- 86 Callot, Jacques, 1592-1650, French designer and engraver
- 46 Descartes, René, 1596-1650, French mathematician, philosopher, author and soldier
- 128 Milton, John, 1608-1674, English poet
- 200 Turenne, Henri de la Tour d'Auvergne, Viscount de, 1611-1675, Marshal of France 1667
- 103 Le Nôtre, André, 1613-1700, French architect and designer of gardens
- 150 Murillo, Bartholomé, ca. 1617-1682, Spanish painter
- 30 Colbert, Jean Baptiste, 1619-1683, Secretary of State to Louis XIV
- 157 Pascal, Blaise, 1623-1662, French mathematician, author, philosopher
- 202 Vauban, Sebastien Le Prestre de, 1633-1707, celebrated French military engineer, Marshal of France 1703
- 20 Catinat, Nicholas de, 1637-1712, Marshal of France under Louis XIV
- 111 Louvois, Francois Le Telleir, Marquis de, 1641-1691, Louis XIV's minister of war
- 65 Fénelon, Franscois de Salignac de La Mothe, 1651-1715, Archbishop of Cambrai
- 87 Bart(h), Jean, 1651-1702, French naval hero
- 206 Villars, Claude Louis Hector de, 1653-1734, Marshal of France 1702

- 4
- 145 Montesquieu, Charles le Secondat, Baron de la Brede et,
1689-1755, French lawyer
 - 49 Diderot, Denis, 1713-1784, French encyclopedist, medical
dictionary, philosopher
 - 180 Rochambeau, Jean Baptiste Donatien de Vimeur de, 1725-1807,
Marshal of France
 - 201 Turgot, Ann Robert Jacques, Baron de l' Aulne, 1727-1781,
Louis XIV's minister of finance
 - 152 Necker, Jacques, 1732-1804, Louis XIV's Swiss Protestant
director of finance, father of Mme. de Stael

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

As of the last printed list of new members, the following have joined the Society:

- BECK, Donna, "Ye Garden Centre," P.O. Box 2, Otisville, NY 10963
- DAVIES, Mrs. F. N., 1601 Kirkway, Bloomfield Hls., MI 48013
- FEIRER, Mark D. & Cathy S., 10 Blakslee Dr., Newton, CT 06470
- GREMBAN, Linda J., 844 E. Sunset Ave., Appleton, WI 54911
- THAW, Clare Eddy, Eastover Farms, Cherry Valley, NY 13320
- WACKER, R. A., Garner, IA 50438
- WIEHNIK, Frank S., Box 456, Rocky Hill, NJ 08553

ADDRESS CHANGES

- COLLINS, Mrs. Edith, RFD, West Pawlet, VT 05775
- FARR, Edward, Box 318, RD #2, Ghent, NY 12075
- HOLLAND, Prof. Neal S., Rt. 1, Box 36, Harwood ND 58042
- HUGHES, Dr. Peter E., 10 Rockingham Close, Kew 3101,
Victoria, Australia
- JEWETT, Raymond A., 4 Lindenwood Dr., South Burlington, VT 05401

FALL PLANTING OF LILACS

Fall planting can be recommended in any area that does not have a severe winter. By August, the top of the plant has completed its growth and produced winter buds which are dormant. The roots, however, can continue to grow until the ground freezes.

The biggest problem in fall planting is the possibility of drought conditions. Summer moisture in New England comes mainly from showers which can fail late in the summer or by-pass a particular location. Dry soil will delay root regeneration and, if severe enough, can kill the plant. A reliable water source for the new plant and a reliable waterer so that it is not water stressed will prevent the problem and go a long way toward making a fall planting successful.

In northern New England the time from 15 August to 1 September is best because there is still a long period for root growth. Later plantings, up to 15 October, can be considered but the later the planting, the greater the chance for winter kill if the winter is severe or has a thin snow cover.

Whether one is moving a lilac from place to place or buying a new balled and burlaped or container grown plant, the procedure for planting is the same as for spring planting. Use top quality plants, dig a hole wide enough to accommodate the spread of the roots and match the soil in the hole with surrounding soil so that the roots can grow out without hindrance. The only difference from spring planting is that real care must be taken to prevent drying during or after planting. A newly acquired plant left in a closed car in a parking lot can be cooked as quickly as the family pet. Also, a plant dug from one location and left unplanted in the hot sun can suffer severe root damage from dryness in a matter of hours. Even after planting, water should be considered on a regular basis whenever natural rain is inadequate until November.

Many people like to plant in the early fall. They are not so busy as in the spring and frequently the weather is much nicer for outdoor activities. It is also a time when plants still have their leaves and the effect of a newly set plant can be seen immediately.

* * * * *

Editor's Note

This summary was sent in by Marty Martin. It's an unusual, albeit very old, idea that you might want to try.

New Method to Propagate Softwood Cuttings

by

Brian Maynard and Nina Bassuk, Dept. of Floriculture & Ornamental Horticulture, Cornell University -- in the "Suffolk County Agricultural News," June 1985.

Cuttings of some woody plant species, however, are nearly impossible to root. One modification that has proven successful is to use softwood cuttings, taking the new flush of growth in the spring that has not yet matured and rooting it. Oaks, maples, hornbeams, pines and many other woody species fail to respond even to softwood propagation; on these species we are trying a method called "etiolation."

Etiolation is the effect produced as shoots elongate in the absence of light. Stock plants that are forced to flush under black shade cloth produce etiolated shoots. The shade is then removed and shoots are permitted to green up for a short time before being made into cuttings. Although this technique has been known to improve rooting since the 1930s, the way it does so remains a mystery. Recent work with etiolation has shown that the total exclusion of light is not crucial, and that the benefits of prior etiolation can be observed even in cuttings taken a few months after the shoots have been allowed to green up.

Some related research being done at Cornell used an interesting offshoot of etiolation. The process, called "banding," involves placing an opaque band (i.e., electrical tape) around the section of the shoot that will become the base of the cutting, the area that produces roots.

The combination of etiolation and banding has promoted rooting better than other treatments for difficult to root pine and lilac cultivars. It is also possible to apply root-promoting compounds (i.e., auxins) with the band, thereby getting the root induction process started before the cutting is even severed from the stock plant.

We are encouraged by the success we have had with plants propagated thus far, and are now trying these techniques on a much wider range of difficult-to-root species. Much more research needs to be done before this process will be commercially feasible, however. We need to develop more efficient methods for etiolating, banding, and applying root hormones. Finally, we would like to understand the internal processes that make this technique so powerful a tool in cutting propagation.



Walter W. Oakes, Secretary
International Lilac Society
Box 315
Rumford, ME 04276

Dear Mr. Oakes:

I am writing to ask if you can give me nursery sources for two lilacs:

S. pubescens
and S. microphylla 'Superba'

I have asked the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens and they were unable to locate them. Their source book had cited Carroll Gardens - but they do not carry these. White Flower Farms no longer offers its S. microphylla 'Superba'.

I am surprised that Wayside Gardens has cut down its own listings of Syringa.

I would be happy to pay for your source book. I find that "sources" listed vary from year to year, however.

I hope that the lilacs I am looking for will become more widely available.

Sincerely,

Nona Bloomer
(Mrs. Kent Bloomer)

Editor's Note

Walter Oakes would also like to know a source so, if you know of one, I'll pass it on to him and publish it here in a future issue of the Newsletter.

CONTROL OF LILAC INSECT PESTS

Abstracted from Insect Control Guide for New Hampshire prepared by Stanley Swier;
Cooperative Extension Service, Durham, New Hampshire

<u>CROP</u>	<u>PEST</u>	<u>INSECTICIDE</u>	<u>WHEN TO TREAT</u>
LILAC	Lilac borer	Dursban, *lindane, *Thiodan	Treat trunk and branches and around wounds in early June. Repeat application 3 times at 10-day intervals (*Thiodan, *lindane)
	Fall webworm	Diazinon, Dursban, Dylox malathion, methoxychlor, Sevin Orthene, Dymet, Turcam (Ficam W)	Treat foliage when webs are first seen - late July
	Lilac leafminer	malathion, Sevin, Dymet	Treat foliage when larvae stage appears in late May and late July
	Oystershell scale	60 or 70 sec oil, oil + *Ethion, *Guthion, malathion, Sevin, Orthene, Supracide (nursery stock only), insecticidal soap	Apply dormant oils to bark in April. Apply other materials to crawler stage on branches in June. Repeat applications as necessary

*Restricted use pesticide in New Hampshire

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