



# Lilac Newsletter

Vol. IX, No. 5, May, 1983

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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Single annual . . . . .	\$ 7.50
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\*Mail membership dues to I.L.S. Secretary

WHAT IS A TYPE SPECIMEN?

James S. Pringle

Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

In several of my papers in Lilacs and in Baileya, I have referred to the type specimen of a botanical name. The purpose of this paper is to explain to non-taxonomists what, in the context of botanical nomenclature, a type specimen is.

When a botanist names and describes a plant species new to science, he bases his description on one or more specimens. He may be familiar with the species only through herbarium specimens, or he may be acquainted with it in the field or garden as well. In either case, however, the rules of botanical nomenclature require that he designate an herbarium specimen as the type specimen, to indicate for posterity exactly what plant material constituted the basis for the original description of the new species.

Preferably, of course, a botanist should have more than one specimen upon which to base the description of a new species. Nevertheless, only one specimen is designated the type, or, more precisely, the holotype specimen, although all of the specimens that were examined for the purpose of preparing the original description should be cited. Occasionally, plants that were originally thought to represent one species may later be found, upon further study, to represent two species. In such a case, the existing name is retained for one species -- the species represented by the holotype specimen -- and is dissociated from the other species.

Sometimes, also, a name originally applied to just one species may later be applied inadvertently to a second species. In Syringa, well-known

cases in which one name has been applied to two distinctly different species include those of *S. afghanica* C.K. Schneider (see *Lilacs* 7:50-52), *S. palibiniana* Nakai (see *Lilacs* 7:54-62, 8:35-39, and *Lilac Newsletter*), and *S. pinetorum* W.W. Smith (see *Lilacs* 7:62-65). In such a case, the original application of the name by its author is the correct application; any later use in a different sense is incorrect. The original and therefore correct application of such a name is determined by consulting not only the original description but also the type specimen.

Although only one specimen is designated the holotype, the collection of which it is a part may comprise two or more specimens. A person collecting lilacs, for example, could on one occasion collect material for several herbarium specimens from one plant. Specimens of the same species, collected by the same person who collected the holotype, at the same time and place, and, if the collections are numbered, bearing the same number as the holotype, are isotypes. These may be deposited in different herbaria. Specimens listed with the original description as being representative of the new species, but collected at a different time and/or place, and/or by a different person, are paratypes. If a holotype specimen should, for example, be destroyed by fire, or if for political or other reasons it became difficult to arrange to examine a holotype, the isotypes and, less ideally, the paratypes would become valuable for nomenclatureal studies.

A type specimen is not necessarily a specimen that is considered "typical," i.e., ideally representative of the species as a whole, for example, in having leaves of average size for the species, or corollas of the most frequently encountered color. To be sure, a botanist who

had numerous specimens from which to choose would normally designate as the type a specimen that was as representative as possible of the species as that species is most frequently encountered. New species, however, have often been named from specimens collected by explorers, who may have been trying to collect as many species as possible within a limited time and sometimes under hazardous conditions, and who therefore could not devote much time to the study of a single species. Some lilac species, for example, have become popular in horticulture following the introduction of very limited amounts of material from the wild. Obviously, the naming of a species should not be deferred until the whole range of variation within that species has been thoroughly studied and means and frequencies have been calculated. It may happen, therefore, that a type specimen will be found to be less than ideal as a representative of the species, but it will remain the type specimen for nomenclatural purposes.

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BORER AND SCALE CONTROL IN WESTERN NEBRASKA

by Max Peterson

Lilacs are relatively free from pests. If you practice good sanitation and keep lilacs growing in a good healthy condition, chances are you will not be bothered by pests. However, there are two pests that plague the average lilac grower. Scale and Borers. If you do not have these pests, thank your lucky stars and pray that you never get them.

Scale has not been much of a problem in Western Nebraska. Surprisingly, the lilacs are not infected with it too much except for a few *Villosa* specimens which seem to be highly susceptible to it. I have seen a few sacs on *Vulgaris* and have followed up with repeat inspections over the years. It seems that scale, here, will advance so far and go no further. I know of old hedges that are infected and still seem to bloom and flourish anyway. However, this is unusual and if you inspect your bushes and find a white encrustation on the branches, you had better make up your mind to rid yourself of this pest.

When we first discovered scale on Green Ash trees in our yard we did panic. I immediately called the County Agent and asked for help. He informed me to watch the scale and when they hatch apply Malathion to the branches. This is fine except for the fact that after staring at these branches once a day for days on end, nothing was ever detected. You're supposed to see, using a magnifying glass, little white nymphs running around on the branches. However, at no time were these ever detected. So you really have to set up your own program to control this pest.

The following program is the one that we finally came up with and it has worked for us:

In late March we apply a dormant oil spray to the branches of the lilac. There are two types of dormant oil spray. One is an oil and the other is an oil that contains sulphur. After trying both we concluded that the oil and sulphur is best.

For mixing, I follow the instruction on the label and drench the plant thoroughly with it. I pick a day that is fairly warm and followed by a night without freezing temperatures. A hose-end sprayer will work as well as any. Do not apply this spray after the plants start into leaf.

Now comes the hard part - when to apply additional controls. It works best for us to spray three weeks after the last average frost date. We use Malathion. Then we apply another spray in about 10 days to two weeks. In this area we have to apply one more spray in late August. We have followed this program with our Ash trees and got rid of the scale completely. It also worked for some scale that we found on one Villosa plant.

Now, with borers there is a different program to follow, which will also take care of the scale.

Borers are pests that occur when a small wasp lays eggs in the branches of the lilac. They look like yellow-jacket wasps, but are smaller and the black and yellow stripes are narrower. When the eggs hatch the resulting worm burrows into the branches and once inside eats out the center of the branch. Usually this pest is not noticeable until you see a small wet place on the branch and a little bit of sawdust near the bottom of the wet spot. By this time it is too late. The only way to control it at this time is to inject chemicals into the hole or take a wire and dig out the worm. There is an excellent product on the market called Borer-Kill. It comes in tube form and has an injector on the end. However, if you have a large number of bushes it is best to apply preventative

measures.

We bought a borer detector from: Albany International, Controlled Release Division, 110 A Street, Needham Heights, MA 02194. This is a paper box that you tie into the lilac bush and then inspect the box every day. One of these is enough for any planting. When you can count six borers caught in the trap it is time to apply a spray to the branches of the plant. We use a product called Dursban. Soak the stems of the lilac. Make sure you get it into the crotches of the bush. Remove the borers from the trap and begin daily inspection again. When you find six or more borers, apply spray again. Sometimes it won't be necessary to apply this second spray at all.

Now, for those of you who have only a few bushes, you can merely observe the bushes and you do not need a trap. When the borer emerges from the branches in the spring (he winters over in there), he will leave half of a cocoon sticking out of the branch. When you see this apply Dursban. Repeat in 10 days to two weeks. Again, a hose-end sprayer will work fine.

Now, the big bonus is, if you are spraying for borers, and have already applied dormant oil spray in the spring, this Dursban will also take care of the scale problem. Scale will begin to move just a week or two after the borers need spraying and since Dursban is a lingering spray, it will usually take care of the scale. However, you might have to apply a spray of Malathion in August. Check with your County Agent on this.

Here in Western Nebraska, after applying these measures faithfully for several years, we now have the program down to one dormant oil spraying in the spring and one spraying of Dursban about the 25th of May.



"FLASH"

The availability of rare and superior lilacs is an ever-increasing problem for our members and for your Secretary. We try to correlate requests for sources with lists sent to us of members' collections but often without success.

Over the years the two most sought lilacs are 'SENSATION' and 'PRIMROSE'. We consider it important for our readers to know that 'SENSATION' is offered this year by Inter-State Nurseries, Hamburg, Iowa 51640 at \$9.95 ea. and \$18.95 for two plants. Tel. collect 712/382-2411 Monday through Friday 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Central Time. Visa and Master Charge credit cards honored.

This is a long-established reputable company and orders can be placed there with confidence of quality plants being shipped and their commitment to their warranties. They have been members of the Society since 1974.

The lilac 'SENSATION' is truly unique - deep magenta with a narrow margin of pure white around each floret. It was introduced by Topsvoort, Holland and received the FCC award in 1938. It was a vegetative sport of the lilac 'HUGO DE VRIES', also a dark purple. Fortunately, the nurseryman was alert and removed the 'SENSATION' branch to be propagated on its own roots or on grafts.

This variety has some disadvantages. The white margins do not show up at any great distance - it must be admired close-up. The plant tends to grow tall and sparse with few side branches. The plant should be pruned back to keep the flowers down at face level or the flowers will soon be sky-high. It is a moderately strong grower in good soil and produces a few suckers once established. The genetic line is unstable and the plant may sport branches which are a dirty pink without white

margins. If you don't like them, cut them off at the base of the branch. Seedlings cannot be expected to resemble the parent. All known seedlings of both 'SENSATION' and 'PRIMROSE' have been without special merit and most have been discarded.

There are a few collectors who would disagree but we feel that no serious collector of lilacs should be without either variety.

Walter W. & Gloria K. Oakes  
3/23/83

NOTE: Inter-State also offers a few other choices of lilacs. For a copy of their catalog write or call the above address.

Editor

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CAVEAT EMPTOR (Let the buyer beware)

Walter W. Oakes

The advent of the planting season brings a welcome batch of catalogs to whet the appetite of the impatient and optimistic gardener. Many of them are treasures of information and triumphs of the photographer's art. We know, from experience, that the plants offered are top quality and that the nurseryman will stand behind them. We have also learned that it pays to buy from these nurserymen or from those on whom we have confidence of their being willing and able to guarantee their plants to be true-to-name and in good condition.

We also receive listings and advertisements of quite a different sort. A few firms offer lilacs at cut-rate prices without noting that the plants are grafted. Some offerings are over-priced and lack the same information. Cut-rate prices almost always mean cut-rate quality, given that there is seldom a "free lunch". A large national firm ships fine seed but their nursery stock is nearly totally lost because of poor storage and worse shipping practices. Dried sticks at \$2.00 - \$3.00 each are no bargain. Forget about repeat orders. Another firm offers over-priced lilacs without varietal names and without noting that plants are grafted. It is just as well they don't offer named plants since 2/3'rds of the plants they sold with a name tag were mislabelled when they offered them that way.

We continue to urge lilac collectors to search for lilacs grown on their own roots. We also urge nurserymen to advise gardeners that plants offered are grafted and that they should

be planted with the graft union 4" below the soil line as they often do with tree peonies. I would, personally, be willing to pay three times the price for an own-root plant vs. a grafted plant even though we had to buy grafted plants when own-rooted were not available. When planted deeply, the lilac will often sulk for a year or two but eventually will recover to be a credit to its race, the nurseryman who offered it and a joy to the gardener.

The views expressed here are personal and may not necessarily reflect those of the International Lilac Society Corporation.

Walter W. Oakes

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RESEARCH WITH INTERSPECIFIC CROSSES

ILS members may be interested to know that the little hybrids of 'Dr. Chadwick' resulting from crossing it with my warm winter types are doing fine and making excellent growth this spring after the long cold (for us) winter. Of course I still have them in the greenhouse and will not set them out until they are large enough for Gerd Schneider to make grafts from them so that should they be killed by gophers or suffer other injury we will have duplicates.

Oddly enough 'Dr. Chadwick' flowered this spring so much earlier than my hybrids that it would have been impossible to make the crosses. I suspect that the reason is that it was so cold outdoors that it greatly delayed the flowering time of my warm weather types. Though I do not heat

the greenhouse anymore (gas is so expensive) it still does get warmer than outdoors and so the 'Dr. Chadwick' plants flowered much earlier. I plan to set out two of them so that next year they will flower at the same time as the warm weather types.

Dr. Walter E. Lammerts

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LILACS WANTED

One of the benefits of membership in ILS is our assistance in locating lilacs which cannot be found listed by commercial sources. We are finding our "Lilac Plant Source List" (1977) to be less useful as time goes on, and nurseries go out of business or reduce their list of lilacs. This work needs to be updated as soon as possible and awaits only the resources of time and information to accomplish. In the meantime, we will try to match up inquiries with sources in our files.

The most recent list of 'wanted lilacs' was received from Mr. John M. Bridgeman, Ripton, VT 05766, and it has stumped us for sources.

'MRS. W.E. MARSHALL' (Perhaps the darkest of the purple tones, single flowers. Introduced in 1924 by Havemeyer. Characteristic of S. vulgaris from Havemeyer, it produces few suckers which partly accounts for its scarcity. One of the 10 top-rated lilacs.)

'HUGO DE VRIES' (Single flowers, dark purple. Introduced by K. Keesen, 1927. This plant is genetically unstable as is its mutation 'SENSATION!'. Plants of both varieties may throw branches of a totally different color.)

'RUTILANT' (Late-blooming, dark purple, single flowers. Introduced by Lemoine, 1931. Highly praised by the few who know it.)

microphylla ('SUPERBA') (A species. We are not sure of the difference between straight microphylla and 'SUPERBA'. Anyway, it is pink with single flowers. Often re-blooms in the fall.)

'MME. CASIMIR PERIER' (A single white. We are not convinced of the value of this variety given some of the modern whites and some of the lesser known older varieties. Lemoine, 1894.)

'PROF. E.H. WILSON' (Single, white. Introduced by Havemeyer, 1943. We are not convinced of the merit of this variety in view of the great single whites i.e. 'FLORA' (Syn. 'Maud Notcutt'), 'MARIE FINON', and 'CANDEUR'.

If any of our members have spare plants of these varieties, please contact Mr. Bridgeman directly as to when plants would be available and what the price would be.

Thank you.

Walter W. Oakes.

LILACS DONATED FOR THE AUCTION

(May 14 - Madison, Wisconsin)

From the Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton

- Syringa 'MISS CANADA'  
S. x prestoniae 'FREEDOM'  
S. x prestoniae 'NIKE'  
S. x prestoniae 'SILVIA'  
S. vulgaris 'SOUV. DE MME. LOUIS GIELIS'  
          'MRS. HARRY BICKLE'  
          'SENSATION'  
          'FRANK PATERSON'  
          'KRASAVITSA MOSKVY'  
          'ROCHESTER'  
          'EXCELLENT'  
          'MARSHAL ZHUKOV'  
          'DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER'  
          'DAPPLED DAWN'  
          'ETOILE DE MAI'  
          'FLORA'  
          'CHARLES JOLY'  
          'GEHEIMRAT HEYDER'  
          'NADEZHDA'  
          'JESSIE GARDNER'  
          'ADAM MICKIEWICZ'  
          'MARLYENSIS PALLIDA'  
          'ROMANCE'  
          'UTRO MOSKVY'  
S. x hyacinthiflora 'ESTHER STALEY'

From the University of Wisconsin Arboretum

- S. x hyacinthiflora 'BUFFON'  
S. vulgaris 'BLEUATRE'  
          'CONGO'  
          'MACROSTACHYA'



From Wedge Nursery

- S. vulgaris 'GENERAL SHERIDAN'
- 'MME. LEMOINE'
- 'FIRMAMENT'
- 'OLIVIER DE SERRES'
- 'PRESIDENT LINCOLN'
- 'BELLE DE NANCY'
- 'KATHERINE HAVEMEYER'
- 'CHARLES JOLY'
- 'CONGO'
- 'PAUL THIRION'
- 'PRESIDENT POINCARÉ'
- 'ANDENKEN AN LUDWIG SPAETH'
- 'MONGE'
- 'A.M. BRAND'
- S. x hyacinthiflora 'POCAHONTAS'

From William H. Horman

- S. x prestoniae 'BASIA'
- S. x hyacinthiflora 'BUFFON'
- S. vulgaris 'CHARM'
- 'CONGO'
- 'FIRMAMENT'
- 'GENERAL PERSHING'
- S. reticulata 'IVORY SILK'
- S. josikaea
- S. laciniata x S. pinnatifolia
- S. vulgaris 'MARECHAL FOCH'
- S. x 'MISS CANADA'
- S. x prestoniae 'NIKE'
- S. vulgaris 'OLIVE MAY CUMMINGS'
- 'PAUL THIRION'
- S. pinetorum
- S. reflexa
- S. vulgaris 'ROYALTY'
- S. x hyacinthiflora 'SWARTHMORE'
- S. meyeri
- S. vulgaris 'MIECZTA'

ENDINGS AND BEGINNINGS

The closing down of gardening activities in the fall comes as a relief that makes more time available for other activities and interests. I would not care to garden 12 months each year. Around Christmas time, I begin to look forward to the new seed and nursery catalogs - my wish books. As they come in, slowly at first, they get a speed-reading for rare and choice lilacs and other gems of the garden. Catalogs from sources we have not received before are more thoroughly reviewed so their offerings are fairly well registered in our memory banks.

This spring the first-time catalog came from Owen Nursery, Bloomington, IL 61701. The lilacs offered are:

S. vulgaris cultivars

- 'LUCIE BALTET' - Single flowers, a coral coppery pink
- 'MME. CASIMIR PERIER' - Double flowers, white
- 'CHARLES X' - Single flowers, magenta (more red than purple)
- 'HUGO KOSTER' - Single flowers, blue-lavender. (A noted collector considers this to be one of the most beautiful lilacs).
- 'MICHEL BUCHNER' - Double flowers, lilac-colored

Species

S. vulgaris (the common lilac) - single flowers, lilac colored.

PRICES

S. vulgaris cultivars \$5.95 ea., 2 for \$11.75, 3 for \$17.50, 6 for \$33.95

PRICES CONT'

*S. vulgaris* (the species) - \$3.75 ea., 2 for \$3.76  
for 12" - 18" plants/

Orders totalling less than \$10.00 should include  
\$1.00 for handling.

Orders totalling \$10.00 and more shipped without  
charge by United Parcel Service so be sure to  
give street address if different from mailing  
address.

Catalog is in color, priced \$1.00.

It is particularly important to note that Owen  
lilacs are propagated on their own roots so they  
should be planted at normal depth. We note also  
among their offerings the white bleeding-heart  
(*Dicentra spectabilis alba*), rare and irresistible.  
We rushed our order out for three of these and a  
few other luxuries.

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Among our old friends, an excellent source for  
lilacs is Carroll Gardens, Westminster, MD 21157.  
Their catalog is attractively printed green on  
white without pictures and costs \$1.00. It  
lists a vast number of unusual perennials, shrubs  
and trees. Carroll also mails a catalog of  
azaleas and rhododendron.

Lilacs Offered

- 'ALPHONSE LAVALLEE' - Double flowers, blue
- 'CHARLES JOLY' - Double flowers, magenta (more red  
than purple)
- 'ELLEN WILLMOT' - Double flowers, white (un-  
surpassed for those who like doubles)
- 'PRESIDENT POINCARE' - Double flowers, magenta  
(more red than purple)

'WILLIAM ROBINSON' - Double flowers, pink

Species hybrids

'JAMES MACFARLANE' - Single flowers, pink, late-blooming

Species

listed *S. palibiniana* (we believe this is now classified as *S. patula* and what Carroll has for stock is uncertain)

PRICES

\$5.50 - \$6.50 and other terms can be determined from the catalog. We have bought plants from Carroll and can attest to the good quality of their plants and to the adequacy of their packing methods

The foregoing information is intended to be a reference for our readers rather than an endorsement of particular nurseries that could be disadvantageous to their competition. Any opinions expressed are our own and may not reflect necessarily those of the International Lilac Society Corporation. So far as we know and from our own experience, both nurseries intend to ship quality stock and are ready, willing and able to honor their warranties.

Walter W. Oakes

5355 MERLE WAY ROAD  
DES MOINES, IOWA 50323

# HEARD GARDENS LTD.

TELEPHONE:  
(515) 276-4533

## SPRING 1983 LILAC LIST

	Color S or D	Sizes Avail.		Color S or D	Sizes Avail.
Alphonse Lavallee	D-IV	A-B-C	Louvois	S-II	A-B
Annabel	D-V	A-B	Marceau	S-VI	A
Assessippi	S-IV	A-B	Marie Pinon	S-I	A-B
Buffon	S-V	A-B-C	Marc Michell	D-V	A-B-C
Capitaine Baltet	S-VI	A-B-C	Maurice Barres	S-III	A-B-C
Clyde Heard (Limited)	S-VI	A	Mirabeau	S-IV	A-B-C
Condorcet	D-VI	B-C	Montaigne	D-V	B-C
Congo	S-VI	A-B	Mme. Antoine Budner	D-V	B-C
Decaisne	S-III	B-C	Mme. Charles Souchet	S-III	A-B-C
Diderot	S-VII	A-B-C	Mme. P. Morel	S-VI	A-B-C
Diplomate	S-III	A-B	Oblata Dilatata	S-V	A-B-C
Edith Cavell	D-I	A-B	Paul Thirion	D-VI	B-C
Edmond Boissier	S-VII	A-B-C	Pres. Fallieres	D-IV	A-B-C
Ellen Willmott	D-I	A-B-C	Pres. Grevy	D-III	A-B-C
Firmament	S-III	A-B	Pres. Lincoln	S-II	A-B
Frank Klager	S-VII	A-B	Pres. T. Roosevelt	S-VII	A-B-C
Glory	S-VI	A-B-C-D	Priscilla	S-VI	A-B-C
Georges Bellair	D-VI	B-C	Reaumur	S-VI	B-C
Grace Orthwaite	S-V	C-D	Ruhm Von Horstenstein	S-VI	A-B-C
Hiawatha	S-VI	A-B	Rose Pink - Case	S-V	B-C
Hugo Koster	S-IV	A-B-C	Silver King	S-III	A-B
Hyacinthiflora	D-III	A-B	Vestale	S-I	A-B-C-D
Isabella	S-IV	B-C	Waldeck Rousseau	D-V	A-B-C
Lamartine	S-V	A-B			

S = SINGLE

D = DOUBLE

Key to Colors

- I. White
- II. Violet
- III. Blue and Bluish
- IV. Lilac
- V. Pink and Pinkish
- VI. Magenta
- VII. Purple

Key to sizes and Price

A -	12/18"	\$ 6.50
B -	18/24"	7.75
C -	2/3'	10.00
D -	3/4'	12.50

Shipping and packing are additional. Limited quantities available!

HOW SHALL WE SHIP?  Parcel Post  UPS  Air Freight  Bus

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

TIPS ON LILAC PLANTING

by W.R. Heard

Lilacs need to be planted in a sunny location; one that gets at least 4 hours of sunlight a day. Try to plant in well-drained soils. When planting in soggy areas, try to plant on a small mound so that any surface water will drain away from the plant.

Don't expect fantastic bloom for the first year or so after lilacs have been planted.

Pruning dormant plants down 1/3 from their tops will result in heavier, better foliage the first year, and more vigorous growth.

Water lilacs well when planting. Shake each plant after watering and backfilling, to remove air pockets. Water weekly after that if the rains are insufficient. Organic mulches such as bark and woodchips help to conserve moisture as well as keeping the weeds down.

Own-root plants should be planted at the same level that they are grown in the nursery. Grafted plants need to be planted deeper.

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Besides the lilacs donated for the ILS Auction, Don Wedge Nursery grows a number of other lilac cultivars. For the complete list of lilacs offered, prices and shipping arrangements please write to:

Wedge Nursery  
Route 2  
Albert Lea, MN 56007

BITS OF WIT

Murphy's Law: Anything that can go wrong, will go wrong.

No good deed goes unpunished.

Leakproof seals -- will

Self starters -- will not

Interchangeable parts -- won't

You will always find something in the last place you look.

The other line always moves faster.

A \$300. picture tube will protect a 10¢ fuse by blowing first.

The chance of a piece of bread falling with the buttered side down is directly proportional to the cost of the carpet.

Any tool dropped while repairing a car will roll underneath to the exact center.

When a broken appliance is demonstrated for the repairman, it will work perfectly.

You will remember that you forgot to take out the trash when the garbage truck is two doors away.

There is always one more bug.