



Lilac Newsletter

Vol. XI, No. 12, December, 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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For many of us, the Christmas Season means the renewal of our faith.

For all of us, it means the happiness of being with family and friends - the joy of children's laughter.

For a few short days, the whole world seems to stop and think about love, peace and goodwill.

May we look forward with hope in our hearts that good thoughts and wishes of yesterday become realities of tomorrow.

My sincere thanks to every member of ILS who gave their knowledge and time without financial remuneration to help in modest but steady growth of our very colorful society.

Have a Joyous and Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

*Charles D. Holetich
The President*

There is a tree lilac (*S. pekinensis*) at the edge of my perennial border. It usually blooms beautifully at the appointed time in July. Four years ago, the erratic behaviour began with a burst of bloom in September. This bloom seemed to be all from the terminal buds. The following year, the terminal buds having been spent, it bloomed from lateral buds. Each branch was covered with small, lacy clusters of bloom. The effect was stunning.

Last year, there were fewer blossoms - quite unimpressive.

This year there was a good display and, to my amazement, late September brought another display. The whole top of the tree was covered with large trusses of blossoms. I returned from a month-long trip on September 29, two days after the hurricane. The weight of the bloom had been too much and the tree (about 12' tall) lay prostrate on the ground. I pruned off an arm load of blossoms and buds before pulling the tree upright and settling the roots back in the soil. Again, the bloom had all been from terminal buds.

Will I have a tree covered with lace next year?

Will I have a tree at all?

Look for the answers in the Lilac Newsletter next fall.

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