



# Lilac Newsletter

Vol. XIII, No. 3, March, 1987

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

### REQUIESCAT IN PACE

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The death of Ken Berdeen last December has shocked and saddened his beloved family and a multitude of friends.

His work over many decades in breeding for new and improved cultivars of *S. vulgaris* resulted in the introduction of a considerable number of superior plants. He was an indefatigable collector of rare lilac cultivars and he seemed to enjoy sharing them with friends as much as acquiring some rare gem of a plant.

Ken never seemed to let life's vicissitudes discourage him and could always find a humorous story to tell especially when he felt he had failed to meet his own standards.

His generosity was unfailing and the lilacs he shared are a great memorial to his work and to him. We will remember him always when the lilacs bloom and grieve that he is not here with us to see them and laugh at life with us.

Walter W. Oakes  
Dixfield, Maine

### NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Al Fordham, retired plant propagator from the Arnold Arboretum, always said that spring comes north at the rate of 100 miles a week. So, if someone in Florida will just call when spring leaves there, we'll be able to set some specific dates. You can then add that to the convention dates in May and you'll have good anchors for your spring calendar. (I assume that you have already returned your convention and housing forms). If you need extra forms, feel free to contact Andrew Pierce. He's preparing a great convention and wants you there.

Walter Oakes still has a good supply of Upton Scrapbooks. There was an order blank in the August Newsletter but if you missed it, a check for \$18.50 (members only) sent to Walter will get you this second book in the series.

This issue has an international flavor with notes from Russia, England and a report from British Columbia. It's nice to know that lilacs are alive and well all around the world and that the work of the International Lilac Society is appreciated.



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АКАДЕМИЯ НАУК СССР  
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Mr. Charles D. Holetich  
International Lilac Society  
P.O. Box 399 Hamilton  
Ontario, Canada L8H 3H8

Moscow,  
January 12 1987

Dear Mr. Holetich,

Recently we have received the President's Award of the International Lilac Society.

We appreciate very much this Award given for our work with lilac. It was possible to gather our lilac collection only through active exchange of plants with different institutions in our country and abroad.

We also highly appreciate the activity of the International Lilac Society in stimulating the lilac exchange programs.

Please, accept our cordial greetings on account of your election as the President of the International Lilac Society. Hope we shall cooperate to the mutual benefit.

Wishing every success in your work.

Sincerely yours

Lev N. Andreev  
Director, Professor

# THE BOROUGH OF BRIGHTON

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## PRESS RELEASE

### INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR BRIGHTON'S LILACS

At a Reception in the elegant Royal Pavilion at Brighton (the only Royal Palace in Local Authority ownership), the Mayor of Brighton, Councillor Jackie Lythell, was shown a handsome engraved plaque commemorating the President's Award of the International Lilac Society presented to Brighton Borough Council's Parks and Recreation Department.

The Award, which was originally made in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, last May, is in recognition of Brighton's National Lilac Collection which occupies a 15 hectare site at Withdean Park adjacent to the main A.23 London Road. It contains some 250 syringa species and cultivars and planting commenced in 1960 to plans drawn up by the late J.R.B. Evison, O.B.E., V.M.H. Its pre-eminence as the most complete collection in the country was recognised by the National Council for the Conservation of Plants and Gardens in 1982.

This collection, together with collections of many other plants such as cotoneaster, viburnum, berberis, flag iris and floribunda and old-fashioned roses, is maintained for the education and enjoyment of the townspeople.

Commenting, the Director of Parks and Recreation, Mike Griffin, said that he was delighted with the Award, which recognises the hard work put in to maintain and improve the collection over many years.

ENDS

## ASH/LILAC BORERS



From the Entomology Fact Sheet, CES, University of Illinois, Urbana

**DESCRIPTION:** The adults of ash and lilac borers are wasp-like moths. The forewings are a brown to chocolate color. The hindwings are clear with a brown border and veins. The body is mainly brown. The legs and abdomen are marked with yellow. The larva is a creamy white, has a light-brown head, and is about an inch long when fully grown.

**LIFE HISTORY & HABITS:** The adult female deposits her eggs in cracks and loose areas on the bark of the host plant. The emerging larvae tunnel through the bark and feed on the sapwood. As the larvae mature, they tunnel deeper, going into the heartwood. The larvae maintain contact with the outside and continue to expel sawdust and frass, which accumulates around the exit holes.

The larvae are half-grown when they overwinter. They become active again in the spring, pupating near the end of the burrows.

**NATURE OF INJURY:** Infestations by ash or lilac borers result in numerous holes through the bark and wood. The areas around the holes may be swollen, with the bark cracked and broken away and the sap exuding from the holes along with sawdust and frass. Branches may be severely weakened at the feeding site. During dry periods in the late summer, terminal shoots may wilt. Severely affected trees may die.

**CONTROL:** Protecting newly planted trees from the borers will help reduce problems. Wrap the trunks. Water and fertilize the trees as needed for your area. This helps the trees to become established. Water and fertilize older trees to reduce stress. Make smooth pruning cuts to reduce oviposition sites, and avoid injuring the bark in any manner. Many times, good cultural practices will keep a problem from occurring.

\*Not on the fact sheet, but their recommendation reads as follows- submitted by W. W. Stampe: The insecticide to use is chlorpyrifos (Dursban 2E) applied as follows: Spray trunk & limbs in Mid-June and repeat in 4 weeks; keep the tree healthy and vigorous and avoid wounds or injury to the trunk.

\*dilutions: 2 tsp/gal; 1 quart/100 gal of spray

**TRAPS:** Detection of presence and delineation of the emergence period of lilac borer may be accomplished with pheromone traps (available from Conrel, 110 A St., Needham Heights, MA 02194). This method is used to determine proper spray time for any area.

Notes on some Lilacs in the Nelson area of British Columbia  
by Valerie Speed

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My garden near Nelson, B.C. suffered two heavy frosts in the spring of 1986 after the lilac buds were already formed, so unfortunately this was not as good a blooming season as I had planned. Even so, my comments here may be of interest, and especially to those who live at even higher altitudes than myself. We are only 6 miles from Nelson, but due to our higher altitude (2500 feet) flowering is usually 2 weeks later than at Nelson. At least this means that we can appreciate 2 blooming times each season.

On our property we have planted: 'President Grevy' 'Ludwig Spath' ('Andenken an Ludwig Spath'), 'Monge' 'Montaigne' 'Belle de Nancy' 'Michel Buchner' and 'Mme Lemoine.' All flowered the second if not the first year, with the exception of 'Ludwig Spath' which took three years. The tallest of any of these lilacs is 5 feet, with most only 2 to 3 feet. They still flower, even at the lower height.

I have noticed that 'President Grevy' and 'Belle de Nancy' have been more affected by frost than the rest. On all cultivars many buds did not mature this season. 'Montaigne' lasted the longest, and for me is one of the nicest.

So far our only method of fertilizing is compost and lime during planting. All lilacs are heavily mulched in the fall.

There are 6 other cultivars planted here for which I have lost the names. They have not yet flowered, but are looking more promising every year. Last year I imported 5 slips from Hulda Klager. So far it looks as if only 'Mrs. Morgan' and 'My Favorite' have made it, and they look quite good. I would like to try taking cuttings of them this year, but imagine it would have some affect on flowers next year.

Recently I visited a house in Robson, B.C. which was a Nursery in the 1930's. There must be upwards of 25 lilacs there, at least 15 feet tall, all different and very beautiful. It was very inspiring to imagine what mine may look like in a few more years.

NOTE: Nelson, B.C., Lat. 49.29N : Long. 117.17 W, located some 120 miles north of Spokane, Washington.



THE LILAC FARM  
356 MAE ROAD  
GLEN BURNIE, MARYLAND 21061  
(301) 761-6458

#### LILAC SEED

Open Pollenated Common Lilac-----	\$0.80/Pk
Open Pollenated Edith Cavell-----	\$1.00/Pk
Imported Lilac Seed:	
Germany-----	\$1.10/Pk
France -----	\$1.10/Pk
England-----	\$1.10/Pk
Denmark-----	\$1.10/Pk
Holland-----	\$1.10/Pk

Note: Availability of imported seed depends on supply.  
Each pack contains approximately 100 seeds.

We also have available a special LILAC MIXTURE feed and conditioner.  
It is compounded from fertilizer, lime, and a special air floated clay.  
Its cost is \$9.50/10 pound bag.

We have a few Juniperus Communis' (Irish Juniper), 1 to 2 feet \$4.50 ea.

We pay shipping costs on all the above items