LILACS

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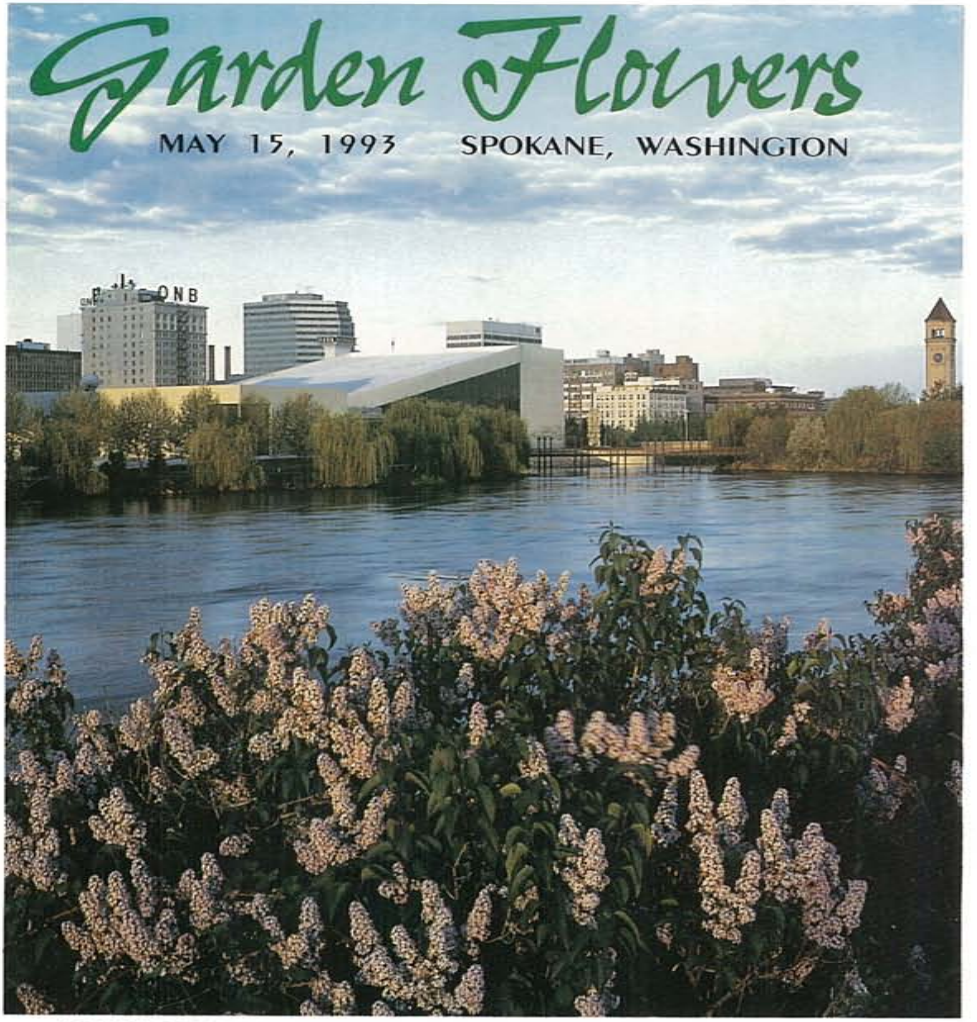

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of the International Lilac Society

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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.

Published January, 1994

LILACS 1994

Cover Story

Front Cover

Spokane, Washington. The summer issue of "Lilacs" carried several reports and stories of the many lilacs grown in the northwest. Spokane has several very nice and expanding collections, especially those in Arbor Crest and the John Finch Arboretum. The convention held there was truly memorable and the hospitality generous.

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Back Cover

Stamps portraying a colorful garden that included lilacs were released as part of the Spokane Lilac Festival. Reva Ballreich's remarks as part of the dedication ceremony were included in the summer issue of "Lilacs."

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Editor's Notes

The Editor's Report in the summer issue of the "Lilacs" carried the resignation of our editor, Robert B. Clark. Bob has done a great job on the "Lilacs" for many years plus additional time as editor of The Newsletter and an earlier stint on the Pipeline. That's a lot of service to ILS and he deserves our appreciation for his dedication and efforts for the Society.

For better or worse, I've taken on his job beginning with this issue. Bob will be a hard act to follow and I'll need your help to do it. The "Lilacs" is a journal devoted to the members of the International Lilac Society and needs contributions and comments from you, the members, if it is to be successful. We will publish any of your comments, suggestions and – heaven forbid – your complaints and criticisms. But you must first write. Have you had any special experiences with or about lilacs? Any places where lilacs have solved a design problem or where they worked well? If you have a question about lilacs, you can be sure that there are others in the Society with the same question and who would like to see the answer to that question. But first you must write. Let us know of your lilacs, your memories of lilacs past or plans for lilacs in the future. But first you must . . .

The President's Message

Our pleasant memories of the "Lilac Spree '93" in Spokane linger on as we settle into the quiet winter months. This is a quality time when we can look back on the many accomplishments of the past year and to look forward to plans and expectations for the year ahead.

As we enter our 23rd year as a society, we can celebrate a continuous progress toward our goals of education, promotion, research and establishments of new lilac gardens, both in the United States and Europe. In 1994, we will have also established a lilac garden in Mexico.

Through the great generosity of Max Peterson, Ogallala, Nebraska, Claremore, Oklahoma, is 375 lilac plants closer to becoming the "Lilac Capitol" of Oklahoma. 33 American hybridized lilacs were planted last year at the Will Rogers Library Park gazebo in Claremore. Congratulations must go to L.D. Allison, OSU, coordinator of the plantings.

The International Lilac Society recognizes the tremendous efforts put forth by the Spokane Lilac Society, the Spokane Chamber of Commerce, Sheri Barnard, Mayor of Spokane and most assuredly, our indebtedness to MarvaLee Peterschick and her local committee in organizing the extremely successful 22nd Annual Meeting of the International Lilac Society in Spokane. They have our many thanks and deepest appreciation.

A sense of excitement was brought to us by our members from other nations who participated in the Spokane Convention. The exchange we have with them is acknowledged and greatly respected.

I want to thank you for your patience during the transfer of the Membership Secretary office from Maine to Ohio. Both the new and the former secretary are to be congratulated for executing this complicated change with minimal interruptions.

As the time draws near for us to plan attending the 23rd Annual Convention in New Hampshire, I would like to urge each and every one of you to give prime consideration toward being present. I would like to emphasize again that there is a very real need to get behind the people in leadership positions to help the International Lilac Society to continue on its path of excellence. Over these many years we have grown in more than numbers, we have grown into an internationally recognized society. This, all because of dedicated members working for the good of lilacs and for the good of all who love them.

My sincere thanks to every ILS member who gave of their knowledge and gave so generously of their time to help in the steady growth of our unique society.

May the coming year bring special joys and blessings to all.

I enjoy being your President.

/s/Reva Ballreich, President

Lilacs On My Mind

By Daniel K. Ryniec

In the past few decades, a renaissance has gripped lilac hybridizers and some of the characteristics of these flowering trees and shrubs has been altered. The late John L. Fiala – one of the most talented hybridizers – will be remembered for his work with dwarf and disease-resistant varieties. His book, *Lilacs: The Genus* Syringa (Timber Press, 9999 S.W. Wilshire, Portland. OR 97225), is the modern-day bible for lilac enthusiasts – amateur and professional alike.

Lilacs today still produce sweetly scented graceful flowers sometimes on rather ungainly shrubs. But the color spectrum of flowers has diversified and intensified, the individual flowering periods are often longer and the whole range of bloom time lengthened, disease-resistant varieties are becoming more available and propagation methods have improved markedly.

What to Look For

When you buy lilacs from a nursery – whether local or mail-order – there are certain criteria I recommend. Since lilacs are slow-growing and long-lived, your investment will be long term.

First of all purchase lilacs that are properly named. Terms like common pink, white or blue are unacceptable. The best-known species is the common lilac *(Syringa vulgaris)* but there are 22 other species and approximately 1800 varieties.

Select lilacs growing on their own roots. In the past lilacs were often grafted on ash or privet stock, but today with tissue culture propagation, thousands are produced at one time – eliminating potential problems of reversion to or competition from the understock.

Look for multi-stemmed plants and maintain them as such. A multi-stemmed habit will guarantee continued flowering even if a branch must be eliminated due to severe weather or pest and disease problems.

If you are a small space or patio gardener, consider some of the many dwarf lilac hybrids. Dwarfs generally grow no taller than six feet and if grown in a container, require one at least the size of a half barrel. Some of the best are John Fiala's crosses – his *vulgaris* hybrids include 'Little Miss Muffet' a single red introduced in 1977; 'Blue Danube', single blue (1986); 'Dr. Joel Margarettan', single purple (1983); and 'Marie Frances', single pink (1983). Consider also *S. julianae* 'George Eastman', with single red flowers and the very popular single purple *S. patula* 'Miss Kim'.

Be aware of blooming period when making selections. Bloom length for any shrub or tree lilac is about two to three weeks, but your choices can bloom almost anywhere within a seven week range.

Seven flower colors are recognized by the International Lilac Society for the 23 lilac species and nearly 1800 varieties. They are white, violet, blue,

lilac, pink, red and purple. Some whites tend to be cream colored and one variety *Syringa vulgaris* 'Primrose' is considered yellow. Several bi-colors exist, but 'Sensation', a single purple lilac edged in white, is unique. Flowers can be single or double with forms that are large or small, tight or open.

Most lilacs have a pleasant fragrance. The sweet fragrance that reminds people of spring is found in majority of the *Syringa vulgaris, S. oblata* and *S. hyacinthiflora* varieties. The later flowering lilacs such as *S.* x *prestoniae* tend to have a spicy fragrance. The last to bloom and the only true tree lilacs – *Syringa reticulata* (Japanese tree lilac) and *Syringa pekinensis* – have similar fragrances.

Gardeners in southern portions of the United States and at high elevations in California are urged to look at early flowering lilacs *(Syringa oblata* varieties). Their tolerance of powdery mildew and drought make them ideal for these climates.

Choosing lilacs is very subjective. Everyone has favorites. Some early lilacs that I enjoy immensely are *Syringa* x *hyacinthiflora* 'Annabel' with beautiful double pink flowers and a heady fragrance; *S.* x *h.* 'Lamartine', a single pink flowering variety; and *S.* x *h.* 'Purple Heart' with large single purple flowers. Of the *vulgaris* cultivars, 'Maiden's Blush' is my favorite single pink. Others that I recommend are *S. v.* 'Firmament', a magnificent single blue lilac with large florets; 'Romance', a single pink comparable to 'Firmament'; 'Vestale' with pure white single flowers in large pyramidal spikes; and the prolific bloomer 'Krasavitsa Moskvy' or 'Beauty of Moscow', which produces pinkish buds opening to pale lavendar-white double flowers with four full layers of petals. *S. reflexa,* a late-blooming species lilac, boasts single pink pendulous flowers and a spicy fragrance. I would like to see *S. reticulata* (Japanese tree lilac) planted more often as a street tree; its June flowers are single and white and its cherrylike bark makes it appealing year-round.

Sites and Cultural Insights

Once you select your lilac varieties, the proper choice of location and good culture will give you healthy, beautiful specimens. Good drainage is essential; planting on a hillside is ideal but if you are determined to grow your lilac in a soggy area, create a raised bed. Excellent soil means a high organic content and a pH around 7. Be sure your site is in full sun, and space plants at least ten feet apart. Good light and air circulation reduce disease like powdery mildew and create fuller plants.

Plant container-grown and balled and burlapped lilacs so that the top of the soil ball is level with the surrounding ground. When planting bare root plants, follow instructions and make sure roots are well spread in the planting hole. Regular waterings for the first two years are essential.

Prune lilacs immediately after they flower. Remove excessive suckering; lilacs usually produce an abundance of suckers. As with any plant, when removing dead and diseased limbs, sterilize tools after each cut.

The Louisa Clark Spencer Lilac Collection in Brooklyn Botanic Garden offers a glimpse of 20 species and approximately 130 varieties. Early lilacs, such as *Syringa* x *hyacinthiflora* 'Annabel', begin blooming here in late April. Following around the first week in May and peaking on Mother's Day are the *S. vulgaris* varieties which make up the majority of the collection. By Memorial Day, the late-blooming lilacs *(Syringa reflexa, S. villosa* and *S.* x *prestoniae)* are at their prime. The last to bloom (in the second week of June) are the spicy-scented tree lilacs *(S. reticulata* and *S. pekinensis)* – both with the single white flowers and attractive cherrylike bark.

Deadheading (cutting off spent flowers), pruning and removing fall leaves from this collection takes most of the summer and fall. I always discard lilac leaves as they often harbor powdery mildew spores.

A Time for Chores

Winter (when the plants are dormant) is a time for me to finish removing suckers and begin severe pruning for rejuvenation of older specimens. If you are apprehensive about winter deadheading and pruning, just be careful to avoid the flowering buds which are located at the tips of the branches just behind the spent flowers. You will be able to recognize deadwood as it is generally very stiff and brittle while live branches tend to be flexible. Winter is also the only time I have to catch up on paperwork and plan for the future. During this season, I inspect the collection, referring to notes about removals and nursery stock to be planted in March and April.

Take advantage of warm sunny winter days when the temperature is around 32°F (0°C) to catch up on weeding, edging and mulching your beds. I always try to apply limestone (50 pounds per 1,000 square feet) on the Brooklyn lilac collection beds in January or February. By the middle of March I begin fertilizing. Usually I use 5-10-5 fertilizer (10 pounds per 1,000 square feet). The choice of fertilizer is based on soil nutrient levels which are determined by a soil test. In March I like to transplant any lilacs I have decided will go to new sites and to plant out nursery stock.

The Stuff of Dreams

Don't forget to browse the new spring nursery catalogs this winter. One of my favorites is the one from Heard Gardens of Johnston, Iowa. This catalog, devoted solely to lilacs, gives useful information about flower type and shape, color, fragrance, sequence of bloom with variety name and descriptions and culture tips. Also listed are lilacs recommended for southern climates as well as lilacs which will be available in the future. An application and information about the International Lilac Society is included; anyone truly interested in lilacs should consider joining the ILS – a well-run organization made up of friendly people willing to share both information and plants. This year's convention was held in Spokane, Washington. For information about this group, contact Robert Gilbert, Box 83, Violet Ave., Hyde Park, NY 12538 (individual membership is $15)

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CHINESE LILACS

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(Paper presented at Lilac Festival – Sapporo, Japan, May 1993)

Translated from Chinese by Katurou Arakawa With Editing Notes by Charles Holetich

Prologue **CHINESE AND LILACS**

Lilacs are among the most popular flowering shrubs in the world. They belong to the genus *Syringa,* represented by 31 species throughout the world. In a wide sense, lilac means species belonging to Genus *Syringa:* in a narrow sense, lilac means one or some peculiar specie in a province or a country.

In China, lilac means *S. oblata* and its variety *S. oblata var. affinis* which is distributed widely and cultivated in China from ancient times. We can trace the name of Ding Xiang (=lilacs) in the book 'Cao Hua Pu' (1591) described during the Miag period. Ding Xiang is a flowering shrub, the florets are small and look like nails. Petals are soft, purple, and fragrant. Ancient people called lilac Ding Xiang on account of its florets, nail-like in shape and their fragrance. (Ding means nail, Xiang means fragrance: ARAKAWA)

The clusters of lilacs are large and formed by numerous small and nail-like florets, so poets of the Tou and Song era had recited 'A shrub has hundreds of branches, branches have a million knots.' In a book 'Shan Tang Si Kao,' it is written 'People in Jiang Nan call lilac hundreds knotted flowers,' this is the reason that lilacs are called 'Bai Jie' (= hundreds knots: see the floret from above. Apices of petals seem to have four ends of knotted cords: ARAKAWA).

In spring time, many plants compete with their flowers, but only lilac will fill the air with its fragrance. It impressed people profoundly and unforgettably. Parting during lilac blooming season, people would remember the parting friend every lilac blooming season by their memory of fragrance. People believe that the fragrance of lilac will endure for the existence of each friendship. That is the reason why lilacs are called 'Qing Ke' (= remember friends: ARAKAWA).

In ancient China and in modern China, lilacs are admired in many provinces. Minor race Beng Long and Dai, Yunnnan, have a tradition that youths in their best clothes during the festival struggle to pick lilac's blossoms on the top of mountains and present them to their loved ones. Lilac blossom manifests their love. Lilac blossom also is a formal engagement flower from parents of the bride and groom. Because of its large clusters, fragrance, purity, and pale color, people in China, Asia, Europe and in North America grow lilacs in their gardens. People of China and Japan especially love the lilac blossom. They have a special affection for lilacs.

PAST HORTICULTURAL HISTORY OF LILACS IN CHINA

Chinese lilacs have been cultivated more than a thousand years. They go back to the Tou and Song era. In Song period, lilac's cultivation had been described in a book, 'Luo Yang Hua Mu Ji' (1082) of selected flowering trees and shrubs. Gao Lian Zai, a man of Ming period, described the propagation of lilac and a description of grafting is available in his book 'Cao Hua Pu' (1591).

In Qing period, Chen Yu Zi had described lilacs most desired soil conditions, (Lilacs dislike damp and fertilized soil) and describes propagation by grafting in his book 'Hua Jing' (1688). Wu Qi Jin had researched the distributions of cultivated lilacs, 'Lilacs are much cultivated in northern regions' in his book 'Zhi Wu Ming Shi Du Kao' (1848).

As described above, lilacs were cultivated during the period of Song, and extensively cultivated in Ming and Qing periods. In those periods, people in northern regions were able to enjoy lilacs near their residences, in the Emperor's gardens, in the temple gardens, in private gardens and in the streets. Not many species were cultivated. Lilac lovers were usually able to obtain only *S. oblata, S. oblata var. affinis, S. meyeri, S. pekinensis,* and *S. amurensis (S. reticulata).* Most lilac species existed in the wild only. It was not until the early fifties that earnest lilac cultivation came to be popularized in China. Beijing Botanical Institute of the Chinese Science Academy started to collect lilac species. 20 species, varieties and 10 cultivars of European origin had been collected by 1962. This was the first lilac collection in China. European lilacs had been cultivated in Ha er Bin since the beginning of this century. In recent years, 12+ cultivars are known to exist.

We have lilac collections in the following arboreta: Beijing Department of Landscape and Gardening Arboretum, Shang Hai Arboretum, Liao Ning Xiong Yue Arboretum, Shen Yang Forest Science Institute and Qing Hai Si Ning Arboretum, etc. Now a days, approximately 25 species and varieties and 34 cultivars are cultivated in China. Recently we were discussing the selections of national flower, the Province's Flower and the City's Flower in China. The lilac was selected as the Province's Flower of Hei Long Jiang Province, the City's Flower of Xi Ning City and Hu He Hao Te City. Those selections will encourage popularization and the cultivation of lilacs in northern China.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF CHINESE LILACS

Genus *Syringa,* approximately 31 species, are known to exist in the world. Their distributions is in temperate zones of Asia and Europe. The genus *Syringa* is composed mainly by Chinese species, hence it may be said that China is the cradle of species within genus *Syringa.* The particularities of Chinese lilac distribution are outlined here:

1. There are many species and many endemic species exist.

27 species are native to China. Exceptions are *S. amuresis (S. reticulata) S. wolfi, S. velutina (S. patula) S. dilatata* and *S. emodi.* The other 22 species are endemic species. There are 2 species in Europe, while 7 species inhabit the other countries such as Russia, Korea, Japan and Central Asia.

2. Particularity of distribution.

The genus *Syringa* in China is distributed from north in Hei Long Jiang to south in Yun Nan, east from Liao Ning to west Si Chuan and Xi Zang, covering area of 15 Provinces. Particularly concentrated in Qin Lieng, there are native 11 species: *S. giraldiana S. sweginzowii, S. juliana, S. pubescens, S. persica, S. pinnatifolia, S. wolfi, S. microphylla, S. oblata, S. pekinensis* and *S. amurensis, (S. reticulata).*

Provinces with secondary concentration are:

Yun Nan, Si Chuan and Xi Zang, featuring *S. yunnanensis, S. komarovii, S. tomentella, S. wardii, S. rugulosa, S. pinetorum, S. potaninii, S. tigerstedtii* and *S. tibetica.*

In Hua Bei Province, 8 species are distributed and one endemic species habitates: *S. meyeri.*

In Dong Die Province, 5 species, in Gan Su, 2 species and an endemic specie of *S. buxifolia* are known to exist.

2. Many of lilacs are growing in mountain areas.

Chinese lilacs are mostly distributed in mountain areas from 600m to 3,800m elevation. There are scattered lilacs along riverside, rock cliffs, sunny woodlands of mountain areas. In Yun Nan and Si Chuan, some species habitate in high mountain area of 4,000m + elevation.

HORTICULTURAL HISTORY OF CHINESE LILACS IN THE WORLD

In 1620TH +, Chinese lilac *S. persica* had been distributed to Europe through Silk Road of Iran.

In 19th Century, the missionaries and plant collectors visited China frequently. They also actively collected plants of genus *Syringa.* Robert Fortune dispatched from Royal Horticultural Society England had had four explorations in China during 1839-1860 with mandate to collect desired plants. He collected the seeds of *S. oblata* and sent them to England in 1856. He also collected seeds of *S. oblata var. affinis* in 1880. They were sent to Paris Botanical Gardens.

Richard Maak, W. S. Clark, Pierre d' Incarville, Dr. Bretschneider, E.H. Wilson, N. Potanin, M. M. Berezovski, G. Forrest and W. Purdom, introduced 21 Chinese lilac species in a short time of 50-60 years.

The Arnold Arboretum, USA, had collected more than 12 Chinese lilac species during the end of the last, and beginning of, this century. These lilac collections offered much material for lilac studies.

In Europe and North America, lilacs had been much cultivated and lilac

hybridizations were intense. In 1777, Rouen Garden, France, had introduced *S.* X *chinensis* from natural crossing *S. vulgaris* by *S. persica. S.* X *prestoniae* were made from Chinese lilacs crossing *S. villosa* and *S. reflexa* at the Horticultural Department of the Central Experimental Farm, Canada in 1919. A famous lilac, *S.* X *henryi,* is a hybrid from *S. villosa* X *S. josikaea.*

Cultivars which are selected from *S. oblata* native in China, are at least 200 by numbers. Lilac cultivars have various individualities: type of florets; single or double, color of flowers; white, purple to red purple, dark blue, etc.; the type of clusters; panicle, cylindrical, semi-globular, pendulous, etc. Lilac cultivars have small to big clusters: small 7-12 cm in length to large 30cm in length.

Among these cultivars, some are more vigorous cultivars than their parents. Many lilac cultivars have been selected and cultivated in the world. Even now, people in the temperate zone of Europe, North America and Asia enjoy and hybridize Chinese lilacs.

TOMORROW OF CHINESE LILACS IN TEMPERATE ZONE

Natural distribution of Chinese lilacs spreads between 26° and 46° North latitude, covering subtropical zone, warm temperate zone, temperate zone, and cool temperate zone, at elevation of 600m-4,000m. The species native in Yun Nan, Si Chuan and Xi Zang habitate in fringes of the woodlands or steep slopes of high altitude mountains. Species in warm temperate, and in cool temperate zone, habitate at lower altitude in various environmental conditions such as: sunnyside, shady woodside, shrubby land.

The annual mean temperature of above mentioned areas indicate mostly 0°C and higher. The minimum temperature of coldest month indicates -38°C. The maximum temperature of hottest month indicates 36°C and lower. The annual rainfall is 500-800mm. Above conditions reflect the temperate zone in which lilacs are found. They love the temperate climate, moderate humidity and full sun, but are tolerant to shady conditions.

They can be found in mountain areas, and favour sandy soils with good drainage. They have different hardiness and tolerances to drought and to infertility. They dislike damp and low acid soil conditions. I have spoken about the inherited conditions of lilacs in the wild and lilac cultivated in temperate zone.

Lilacs are cultivated and enjoyed in more than 30 countries of the world, in which they can grow, bloom and fertilize out of doors. Lilacs have a great adaptability and are known to grow in regions with minimum temperatures of -37° or lower.

The climate of Sapporo is similar to that of Ha Er Bin. With regard to the humidity of air, Sapporo has better condition than Ha Er Bin. You should be able to cultivate various lilacs.

I wish you would grow various Chinese lilac cultivars in Sapporo, and that lilacs bloom inspires the friendship blossoms for Japanese and Chinese

people. Thank you.

(After that the meeting was continued with slides to introduce the Chinese main species and cultivars.)

LIST OF CHINESE LILAC

S. oblata L. (Hua bei zi ding xiang)
Distributed in Nei Monggol, Provinces of Xi Bei, Hua Bei and Dong Die.
Inhabit shrubbyland of sunny slope in 1,200M - 2,600m elevation.
Much cultivated.

S. oblata var. *affinis.* L. (Bai ding xiang)
Distributed in Provinces of Xi Bei and Hua Bei.
Inhabit in same environment as *S. oblata.*
Much cultivated.

S. oblata var. *giraldii,* Rehd. (Zi e ding xiang)
Distributed in provinces of Hua Bei, Dong Die and Xi Bei.
Inhabit shrubbyland of sunny slope and mountain valley in 1,000m-2,000m elevation.
Already cultivated.

S. pinnatifolia, Hemsl. (Yu yie dind xiang)
Distributed in Qin Lieng, Qing Hai, Nei Monggol.
Inhabit woodside, valley and stony riverside.
Cultivated in moderation.
The plant has pinnated leaves. The flowers are pale and poor. This rare species is under safeguard.

S. persica, L. (Hua yei ding xiang)
Distributed in Gan Su, Qing Hai, Western Si Chuan, Xi Zang.
Inhabit shrubbyland of sunny slope in 2,200+m elevation.
Already cultivated.
Even old shrubs will have blossoms on the lower branches. They will dress up all of their forms by flowers.

S. persica var. *laciniata,* West. (Lie yie ding xiang)
Distributed in Gan Su, Qing Hai.
Inhabit shrubbyland of sunny slope.
Already cultivated.
The plants in our arboretum have been moved from Qing Hai. The clusters will grow up 40cm length. They have wonderful foliage.

S. velutina Komar *(S. patula)* (Guang dong ding xiang)
Distributed in Liao ning, Jilin, Korea.
Inhabit sunny rocky slopes.
Already cultivated.
Blooming in April and for ten days: not long period because of hard spring sunshine.
Good blossoms. Easy to cultivate.

S. microphylla, Diels. (Xiao yie ding xiang or Si ji ding xiang)
Distributed in provinces of Hua Bei and Xi Bei.
Already cultivated.
The flowers are pink. The species has two flowering seasons, in April to May and July to August. This species could be the parents for a perennial flowering cultivar.

S. meyeri, Schneid. (Lan ding xiang)
Distributed in He Bei and Southward of Tai Hang Shan in He Nan.
Inhabit sunny slopes.
Cultivated in moderation.
This species is the most dwarf formed lilac. They will grow up 1.5m maximum. The plants will be good medium for greens and flowers in landscaping at parks and gardens.

S. pubescens, Turoz. (Qiao ling hua)
Distributed in Liao Ning, He Bei, He Nan, Shan Xi, Shann Xi, Gan Su, Qing Hai.
Inhabit sunny slope and riverside.
Cultivated some.
The blossoms have the noblest fragrance of lilacs. The plants will not grow well in our arboretum. They are weakened by summer heat in Bei Jing. We have long, hot days in summer. They will grow vigorously in Sapporo.

S. wolfi, Schneidi. (Liao dong ding xiang)
Distributed in provinces of Dong Die, He Bei and Da Qing Shan in Nei Monggol, Korea.
Inhabit woodside and mountain torrent side in 1,200m elevation.
Already cultivated.

S. villosa, Vahl. (Hong ding xiang)
Distributed in Liao Ning, He Bei, Shann Xi, Shan Xi.
Inhabit woodside, mountain valley, riverside, sunny slope in 1,200m-2,700m elevation.
Much cultivated.
Blooming in May. Large leaves.

S. tigerstedtii, H. Sm (Ti shi ding xiang)
Distributed in mountain area of Eastern Xi Zang and Western Si Chuan
Favorite sunnyside.
Cultivated some.

S. emodi, Wall. (Xi ma la ya ding xiang)
Distributed in Ji Long in Xi Zand, Nepal, Pakiston.
Inhabit mountain area, woodside or sunny slope in 2,900m elevation.
Cultivated some.

S. tomentella, Bur. et Franch. (Mao ding xiang)
Distributed in Yun Nan, Si Chuan.
Inhabit woodside or sunny, steep slope in 2,400m-4,000m elevation.
Cultivated some.

S. sweginzowii, Koehne et Lingelsh (Si chuan ding xiang)
Distributed in Northwestern Si Chuan, Hu Bei, Shann Xi, Qing Hai, Gan Su.
Inhabit shrubby in woodside, valley, mountain torrent side, wayside in 2,400m-3,000m elevation.
Already cultivated.

S. komarovii, Schneid. (Xi shu ding xiang)
Distributed in Yun Nan, Western Si Chuan.
Inhabit woodland, woodside, sunny, steep slope in 1,800m-3,000m elevation.
Cultivated some.

S. reflexa, Schneid. (Chui si ding xiang)
Distributed in Eastern Si Chuan, Western Hu Bei.
Inhabit woodside in 1,500m-2,700m elevation.
Cultivated some.

S. wardii, W. W. Smith (Yuan yie ding xiang)
Distributed in Zhong Dian and De Qin in Yun Nan.
Inhabit shrubbyland and riverside and wayside of mountain slope in 2,800-3,000m elevation.
Not cultivated.

S. rugulosa, Mcke. (Zhou yie ding xiang)
Distributed at the river side of Lian Cang Jiang River, lying on De Qin in Yung Nan and Southeastern Xi Zang.
Inhabit shrubbyland or way side of mountain slope in 2,000m-2,500m elevation.
Not cultivated.

S. potanini, Schneid. (Chuan xi ding xiang)
Distributed in mountain areas of Yun Nan, Gan Su, Si Chuan.
Inhabit shrubbyland of mountain slope in 2,300m-2,500m elevation.
Not cultivated.

S. tibetica, P.Y. Bai (Zang Nan ding xiang)
Distributed in Ji Long in Xi Zang.
Inhabit steep mountain slope in 3,200m elevation.
Not cultivated.

S. juliana, Schneid. (Zi ding xiang)
Distributed in northern mountain areas of Qin Lieng and Nan Wu Tai in Shann Xi.
Inhabit woodland or woodside of mountain slope in 1,200m-1,600m elevation.
Not cultivated.

S. dilatata, (Chao xian ding xiang)
Distributed in Qing Hai Bei Shan, Northern and Central Korea
Inhabit shrubbyland and woodside in 2,200m elevation.
Already cultivated.

S. yunnanensis, Franch (Yunnan ding xiang)
Distributed Li Jiang, Zhong Dian, Gong Shan in Yun Nan and Southern Xi Zang.
Inhabit woodland and woodside in 2,300m-3,800m elevation.
Cultivated some.

S. pinetorum, W. W. Smith (Song lin ding xiang)
Distributed in Li Jiang Zhong Dian in Yun nan.
Inhabit mountain slope or woodland of mountain valley in 2,200m-3,800m elevation.
Cultivated some.

S. amurensis (S. reticulata), Rupr. (Bao mao ding xiang)
Distributed in Provinces of Hua Bei, Xi Bei and Dong Die, Korea.
Russia.
Inhabit woodside or shrubby, sunny slope in 1,200m-2,200m elevation.
Much cultivated.

S. pekinensis, Rupr. (Bei jing ding xiang)
Distributed in provinces of Hua Bei and Xi Bei.
Inhabit sunny mountain slope and mountain valley in 600m-1,700m elevation.
Already cultivated.
This species is distinguished from *S. amurensis (S. reticulata)* by its stamen which is shorter than *S. amurensis (S. reticulata).*

S. giraldiana, Schneid. (Gin ling ding xiang)
Distributed in south and north mountain areas of Qin Lieng.
Inhabit mountain slope, woodside and shrubbyland in valley, riverside in 1,600m-2,840m elevation.
Cultivated some.

S. buxifolia. Nakai (Gan su ding xiang)
Distributed in Gan Su.
Inhabit shrubbyland in sunny slope.
Cultivated some.

DISCUSSION

The chairman: Thank you, Mrs. Zang Shu Ying for your speech and your introduction of Chinese lilacs. Now we wish to have a question-answer period about Chinese lilacs.

A woman: Thank you sir, Mrs. Zang. I understand various lovely species are distributed in your country, and you have a thousand year history of lilac cultivation. Mrs. Zang, may I have the answers to some of my questions? **1st:** Do people enjoy lilacs in floral arrangements in China? And please tell me how people enjoy lilacs in their gardens? **2nd:** In Japan, we enjoy lilac arrangement all year around by forced lilacs. Are Chinese nurseries producing forced lilacs? **3rd:** I wish to ask you about lilacs' environmental conditions: temperature, mountain areas and amount of rainfall. **4th:** I heard *S. pubescens* and *S. sweginzowii* do not perform well in heat. Would you tell me what the moderate temperature is?

Mrs. Zang Shu Ying: Answer to 1st: We have over 100 years' lilac history. We can find the terms of lilac blossoms in ancient poetries. In China, floral hybridizations or breeding of such as Peony, Chrysanthemum, Tree peony had long history, but lilac has not such a long history. We have lilacs breeding for those 50 years since the fifties. Now we have only 6-7 cultivars.

It was since 1936 when citizens of Beijing began to enjoy ornamental

lilacs. We have a habit of planting lilacs in our patio in Beijing. We don't have a habit of enjoying lilac arrangements, but some smaller groups of people have unique culture. They regard lilacs with greater value. Most of such customs could be found in mountain areas. I think it is part of one's culture. Our nation made much of its lilac hybridization since the early fifties.

Answer to 2nd: Today lilacs are not commercialized and not mass produced in China. A culture relates to economical development. Today's economical condition in China places greater emphasis on vegetables than flowers. But we have floral resources. In future, our economical development will stimulate lilac mass production. The minds which love and enjoy beauties need no borders. Chinese people, however, enjoy more Bonsai than flower arrangements.

Answer to 3rd: Lilacs habitate in temperate zones. They have a hard time with summer heat. The temperature goes down 1°C for every 100m elevation in mountain areas of temperature zones. The temperature will not go up even in daytime in mountain areas. We have four distinct seasons in Beijing. We plant lilacs in shady and well drained places.

Answer to 4th: In Beijing, hot days of high temperature 35°C lasts for 2-3 weeks. This climate will not be good for lilacs from high mountain areas. Some symptoms; poor growth, no flower and buds, plant weakening will be seen. There is a need for good drainage. *S. oblata* is vigorous at mountain areas but will be weaker when they are moved into Beijing.

A man: Mrs. Zang Shu Ying, May I ask your hybridizing plan for the future? Especially how do you use various species in China?

Mrs. Zan Shu Ying: We have various wild lilacs such as *S. microphylla* and *S. meyeri.* But our lilac hybridization runs one century behind the European and North Americans. Lilacs usually bloom April to June. We would like to encourage early blooming or late blooming lilacs and to enlarge the florets by selections. Also, yellow colored florets would be a good idea.

Another man: Mrs. Zang Shu Ying, can lilacs be seen on streets in China? Are lilacs suitable as the roadside trees?

Mrs. Zang Shu Ying: *S. oblata* are planted on streets in Ha Er Bin and Xi Ning and the capital of nei Monggol *S. oblata* is tolerant to waste gas. They are planted on streets in Beijing. The dusty hard winds blow in Beijing, and the dust lies on leaves but it does not seem to harm the plant. Dried air during bud opening period is considered harmful; the florets will be injured and scorched.

The other man: Mrs. Zang Shu Ying, would you tell the size of your institute, if possible?

Mrs. Zang Shu Ying: In my case, workers are short seasonal. They were university graduates. But now, they aren't. The institute has a 6,600m nursery. The acidity of our nursery is pH 6.5-7.5.

(The chairman: The time is now coming to close, Mrs. Zang Shu Ying. Thank you for your valuable speech and polite information.)

A Report From the Archives

The Archives has made good progress during its first full year. All of the papers received from Fr. Fiala's estate have been processed and organized, as well as an almost complete set of ILS publications. Walter Oakes has been sending a small, but steady stream of materials, and individual items have been received from several members. The subjects of some unlabeled photographs from Fr. Fiala's records were identified by participants at the Annual Convention in Spokane, which also yielded interesting material regarding Spokane's annual lilac festival and the First Day of Issue ceremonies for the Garden Flowers stamps series (programs and First Day covers included).

We are awaiting the complete set of minutes of the Board meetings – the official records of the Society, which will provide the core of the Archives. At that point, the Archives will be free to begin pursuit of the Members and their reminiscences. Please keep the Archives in mind, not just about your personal papers, but also nursery catalogs or news on or about lilacs. And if you're seriously thinking about the Archives but you're not quite ready to part from your memories, you might consider preparing a letter of intent, so that when the appropriate time comes nothing gets lost or discarded that you had wanted preserved (an example of a suitable letter will be included in the next issue of LILACS).

On another note, Tom Delendick has joined the staff of Brooklyn Botanic Garden, as of June this year. Both co-chairs of the archives (Tom and Dan Ryniec) are now at the Garden, so you may send correspondence or materials to either of them at:

Brooklyn Botanic Garden
1000 Washington Ave.
Brooklyn, New York (U.S.A.) 11225

Statement of Purpose for the Archives

A non-profit corporation comprised of individuals who share an interest and appreciation for lilacs, the International Lilac Society was formed to promote, educate and broaden public awareness of lilacs. The purpose of the International Lilac Society Archives program is to gather, select, classify, preserve and make available significant records that document the Society, its activities, and its membership.

Among the collections are records pertaining to the Society's organization and management, its work, members, Board of Directors and its standing committees, as well as botanical classification, cultivar descriptions, registration and surveys. The collections constitute a unique information resource to be used for purposes determined by the Society.

Approved by the Board, International Lilac Society
May 1993

Archives Access Policy

The International Lilac Society (ILS) collects and maintains records which have enduring administrative, legal, fiscal, and research and reference value.

Society members may request materials and information from the Royal Botanic Gardens where the ILS Archives are on deposit. Access to confidential or restricted information will be provided in accord with access designations approved by the Board of Directors.

Individuals from outside of the Society will be permitted access only with specific written permission.

No materials can be removed from the ILS Archives without the knowledge and consent of the Board of Directors and without being signed out by the user.

Access to the finding aids and/or any computerized information concerning the ILS collections will be managed by the ILS Archivist or person assigned to manage them. Records deposited in and accessioned to the International Lilac Society Archives' collections will be classified and made available in conformance with the following guidelines:

1) **Open Access Records** are those which may be made available to all members of ILS and may be used by the Archivist or person assigned to manage the collections in order to respond to requests for information from the public. Included in this category are records originally intended for public circulation and other materials approved for open distribution or release.

2) **Restricted Access Records** are those which, though not Open, may be made available to members of the ILS at the discretion of the Archivist or person assigned responsibility for the collections.

3) **Closed Records** are those which, for a specified or indefinite period of time, are available only to the depositor and to the Archivist or other person who is responsible for their maintenance. Exceptions to this closure may be made, but only with the permission of the Archivist and the individual from whom the particular records originate. (Closed Records normally will remain closed for a maximum of 25 years from the date of their creation, although in certain cases longer periods of closure may be set upon agreement of the depositor and the Archivist.)

Access categories and restrictions will be determined at the time of transfer or deposit, i.e., when the records become the responsibility of the ILS Archives, or when records are accessioned.

Open Access Records deposited in the ILS Archives but not yet processed, generally are not made available for research until processing has been completed. Any records or documents whose physical condition is so

fragile that use would endanger the material will not be available for use until appropriate conservation or repair work can be undertaken.

To insure the integrity of the collections, access to the ILS Archives' holdings will be permitted only under the supervision of the Archivist or staff of the Royal Botanic Garden. Permission to examine records does not include authorization to publish them. "Fair use" permits quotation with proper citation from ILS publications. However, prior written permission to publish any work using records of the International Lilac Society must be obtained in writing from the Board of Directors.

Approved by the Board, International Lilac Society
May 1993

But please note:

The ILS Archives have not yet been transferred to the Library of the Royal Botanic Garden, Hamilton, Ontario. The Co-chairs hope that acquisition and processing of the Minutes of the Board and of the ILS's official publications may be complete in time for transfer of those records after the Annual Meeting in June 1994. At present the records are in the custody of Co-chair Tom Delendick.

Finding aids: Since most of the records are as yet incomplete or in a fragmentary state, the finding aids are still in process of preparation.

Editor's Postscript: Answering a Question

"Where can I get it?" is the second most asked question about lilacs right behind, "Which lilac should I grow?" It's a frustrating question because there are hundreds of cultivars (maybe thousands) out there but they are scattered among nurseries from the east to the west coast. How does one find them? One up-to-date list is contained in the "Anderson Horticultural Library's Source List of Plants and Seeds." It lists many trees and shrubs available from over 400 nurseries in the United States and Canada and includes over 200 listings of lilac species and cultivars. If anyone would like to purchase a copy or encourage a local library to buy it, I have included the full name and address below.

"Anderson Horticultural Library's Source List of Plants and Seeds," 1993 Edition $34.95 ($37.25 in Canada). Send orders with payment in U.S. currency to the Anderson Horticultural Library.

Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
3675 Arboretum Drive Box 39
Chanhassen, MN 55317

Records Policy

It is the policy of the International Lilac Society to maintain the records of the Society's administration, programs, activities, legal and financial condition and publications in such a way that

- statues for retention are met;
- confidentiality is protected and security is provided in instances in which restrictions are appropriate;
- archival records are secure and are stored in accord with archival standards;
- administrative needs for information and for retrieval of files are satisfied.

Records generated by the Society's Board of Directors and its standing committees are the property of the International Lilac Society. They are to be handled in accord with the designations below.

RECORD – Any recorded information, regardless of its characteristics or the medium in which it was recorded, constitutes a "record." (1)

ACTIVE RECORDS – The Society defines its active records as correspondence, memoranda, meeting minutes, contracts, convention and auction materials, reports, financial and accounting records, publications, photographs, or any other form of media containing information to which access is required on a day-to-day basis for the conduct of current operations and business. Generally active records are retained for ready access and retrieval by the person or office that generates them.

INACTIVE RECORDS INDEX – The Society defines its inactive records as correspondence, memoranda, meeting minutes, contracts, conference and workshop materials, reports, financial and accounting records, computer tapes, disks and other electronic storage materials, publications, photographs, or any other form of media containing information to which access is not required on a day-to-day basis. Inactive records are retained for a specified period of time to meet administrative, statutory, archival or other requirements.

VITAL RECORDS – Vital records are those which are essential to the legal standing of the Society and its ongoing activities. These include papers of incorporation and bylaws; minutes of the Board of Trustees and Board of Directors; current agreements and contracts; current financial records (accounts payable and receivable); membership lists. Many vital records are also archival.

ARCHIVAL RECORDS – Records that have enduring administrative, legal, fiscal, reference, and/or historical value can be defined as archival records. Archival records contain information, images (in the case of photographs, films, video, and slides), or data that are important to tracing the development, policies, activities, publications and services of the Society.

Adopted by the Board, International Lilac Society, May 1993

(1) Frank B. Evans & Donald F. Harrison, "A basic glossary for archivists, manuscript curators, and records managers," **American Archivist,** Vol. 37, no. 3, July 1974.

International Lilac Society

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SPOKANE, WA
MAY
15
1993
99210

FIRST DAY OF ISSUE

This colorful garden of hyacinth, daffodil, tulip, iris and lilac was "planted" on five booklet stamps by artist Ned Seidler of Hampton Bay, New York, who also designed, among many other stamps, one featuring the African Violet to be issued late this year. They continue a tradition of beautiful stamps featuring topical subjects from our natural environment — from wild animals to wildflowers.

Appropriately, the U.S. Postal Service garden of floral commemoratives is first taking bloom in the "Lilac City," in conjunction with the annual Spokane Lilac Festival. First held in 1938, the now 10-day celebration has grown to become the largest community celebration in the Inland Northwest and one of America's top 10 community and armed services events.