

# Lilacs

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*Syringa x josiflexa 'Jesse Hepler' in full bloom in Durham, NH.*

## QUARTERLY JOURNAL

of the International Lilac Society

IN  
THIS  
ISSUE:

### Convention Proceedings

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 c/o Mrs. Pauline Fiala, 6995 Congress Road, Spencer, Ohio 44275. \$5.00 (U.S.)

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### Membership Classification (U.S. Funds)

Single or Family / Annual .....	\$ 15.00
Sustaining .....	30.00
Institution/Commercial .....	35.00
Life .....	160.00

• Mail membership dues to Asst. Treasurer Robert Gilbert

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 July, 1995*

LILACS 1995

## Cover Story

### ***Front Cover***

*Syringa x josiflexa* 'Jesse Hepler' in full bloom on June 22nd in Durham, N.H. a full month after the main *S. vulgaris* bloom. In addition to being late blooming and relatively slow growing, the plant has no mildew in New Hampshire and is sterile (no fruit or seeds). This means that you will never have to prune off the developing seed heads but it also means that we can't select for even later bloom or make crosses with any other lilacs. Ah, well, it is beautiful in bloom.

### ***Back Cover***

Don Wedge and Charles Holetich confer on the top deck of the Mississippi Belle II during the 1995 ILS Convention. Below them several decks offered food and casino gambling. No one has admitted to winning enough money to pay for the trip to Clinton, Iowa but it could have happened.

## ILS Convention 1995

*by John and Ann Carvill*

**M**y wife and I left the Empire State early Sunday morning. The weather was as nice as you could wish for. We arrived in the "Heartland of America" about mid-morning. The airport at Cedar Rapids was small but an accommodating one. Our car rental was not more than twelve feet from the terminal. The weather here had changed drastically; it was wet and cloudy. I mention the weather again because it is a very important element in our convention visit this year.

This is our first visit to the Midwestern states therefore our plans included touring for several days before the start of the convention. All good plans more often than not, do have a snag in them. The weather was very uncooperative, the distance from one place to another on the map were more than we anticipated and many detours slowed us down. We hoped to see the wheat fields and cornfields being worked and pay a visit to see the best Lilacs in Nebraska located in Ogallala. Unfortunately we didn't see either. The lilacs had adverse weather conditions and the farms were turned to mud or flooded before farmers could plant. Even though the weather was against us we did manage to see some beautiful sights of the Heartland and meet very friendly personable people.

Our visit to Lincoln, Nebraska and Pierre, South Dakota with everything in between turned out to be wet but great. North Dakota looked real close on the map but ended up to be too far for the time we had left before registration for the convention. We headed back to Clinton and ran into fourteen miles of torn up highway turned to mud, several flooded highways causing many detours as torrential downpours kept on coming. On our way into the rolling farm country of Clinton we stopped for lunch. The sun came out but not for long. During lunch we had the pleasure of talking with a farmer from the area. He told us if the weather turns dry in the next couple of days there would still be time for near normal crops. Seeing so much of the land under so much water, this was almost impossible to fathom.

The Frontier Motor Inn was certainly easy enough to find. We pulled into the Motor Inn around one o'clock in the afternoon and our first pleasant experience was to meet some old friends and a new member on our way in the door. After our very happy hellos we checked into our room. It was early so we decided to visit the Bickelhaupt Arboretum. (Yes, you can get lost in Clinton.) When we did arrive at the Arboretum we were graciously welcomed by Linda Bickelhauf Galanis and spent several hours viewing this fourteen acre horticultural showplace. This was a terrific way to officially begin Lilac Convention 1995.

The next day after the Annual meeting we boarded the bus and had

lunch on the Mississippi Belle II Riverboat Casino, a 500 passenger paddlewheeler docked on the Mississippi River. After some chance at gaming we went up on deck and sat with some members for a quiet and still look at the Mississippi that ties the heartland of our nation together. The rest of the day we visited the city of Clinton with its Victorian era mansions, nostalgic general store and seeing many other points of interest.

The final day of the convention had everyone's attention on the rainy weather. Today we toured the Arboretum and had the Lilac Auction. The entire day turned out to be great. A little sun, some rain and a lot of fun.

I would like to sum up by saying it's always nice to see old friends and visit with new members. We had fantastic food, frolicsome fun and friendly fellowship with a feeling of anticipation for the future Lilac Convention of 1996.



*Syringa reticulata* (x  $\frac{1}{4}$ )

L.H. Bailey – *Standard Cyclopedia of Horticulture* – 1916 Edition



*International Lilac Society*  
**Annual Meeting**

Clinton, Iowa – May 12, 1995

**MINUTES**

The 24th Annual Meeting of the International Lilac Society was convened by President Reva Ballreich at 11:00 a.m.

**Recording Secretary: *Mark J. Clements***

The minutes of the 1994 Annual Meeting held in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, were read and accepted.

**Treasurer: *Walter Eickhorst***

An abbreviated version of the treasurer's report was read and accepted. As of 4/1/95, \$28,454.43 was being held in Special Accounts funds. The ILS checkbook balance was \$6,492.08. A certificate of deposit is held through the brokerage firm of Edward D. Jones & Company (Account #212-03072-1-6) for \$38,000. Total funds available as of 4/1/95 were \$44,492.08.

**Membership Secretary: *David Gressley***

As of this report there are 66 Life members, 17 Complimentary memberships, 4 Honorary members, 279 Single/Family members and 42 Canadian members for a total membership of 408.

The membership secretary has given updated membership lists to all Regional Vice-Presidents to contact those members who haven't paid for this year.

**Publications: Editor, *Dr. Owen M. Rogers***

Dr. Rogers reported that he had now published four issues of the ILS journal "Lilacs" as editor. He would like to give his thanks to all contributors to the journal. The journal has had seven advertisements this year from five different firms which have covered the costs for their publication. The journal has published sources of lilacs for those looking to buy lilacs or needing to share such information with others.

The "Lilac Care Bulletin" should be printed by the end of May if all goes according to current plans.

Dr. Rogers is waiting for reports on the seedlings he gave out last year at the annual meeting in New Hampshire. He is hoping to produce a double lilac and would appreciate reports on your plants when they bloom.

**Executive Vice-President for Europe: *Colin Chapman***

Mr. Chapman reported that they have successfully fought off a planning

application for major construction next to his lilac collection at Norman's Farm in England. They had lots of help from many interested individuals and garden societies such as the ILS to help defeat this proposal.

Colin reported that he has two areas in which he plans to direct his attention now: one is to develop his and other English lilac gardens. He now has approximately 450 taxa - mostly grafted - and wants to develop plants on their own roots. Another project is to help out at Kew Gardens in developing their lilac garden. They are planting small plants, mostly *S. vulgaris*, and Tony Kirkham has brought seed back from the wild in Korea which can be grown and used in future lilac development.

Colin reported that *Krasavitsa Moskvya* and *Maiden's Blush* are now widely available in much of Europe.

Colin is planning on writing an article on lilacs in Poland. Gabor Schmidt in Hungary has some new ideas on the origin of lilacs which will also be interesting to make known. Colin received seed of *S. emodi* from a very southern location in India and of *S. yunnanensis* from the Alpine Garden society on their China expedition.

### **Executive Vice-President for Canada: Charles Holetich**

Charles urged that ILS members use the evaluation techniques for new or current lilacs that have been published in the past. He will be glad to send evaluation forms to any member who is interested with instructions for their use.

There are now 810 species or cultivars in the RBG collection and there is no further room to add new plants. Due to this problem current plants in the collection are all being reevaluated to allow culling of inferior plants that will allow addition of new ones.

350 cultivars are being planted in a new park in Sapporo, Japan, with much interest in how they will perform there. Temperature ranges are similar but humidity is much higher than here. A lilac collection is also being planted in Australia in the higher hills outside of the Sydney area. Xinlu Chen took scion wood of 105 varieties x 5 each back to China with him to be planted on the grounds of the Beijing Agricultural College.

120 cultivars are being sent to Bologna, Italy, to be planted in a garden 45-50 kilometers north of Bologna in the foothills of the Alps. This project is being spearheaded by two ILS members, Carlo Pagani, a nurseryman who will do the actual planting, and Valeria Von Jenisch, who owns the land the garden will be planted on.

Charles is sending out more scion wood to various countries each year. The largest number of cultivars went to a new French garden collection about 50 km east of Paris which is currently being set up. This collection already has about 780 different cultivars and species.

Charles reported that he is sending lilac tissue samples to the University of Tennessee for DNA 'fingerprint' testing.

A CD-ROM disc of Charles Holetich's *S. vulgaris* lilac slides will be available soon through the Auxiliary Shop at the Royal Botanical Gardens. Call (905) 527-1158 and ask to be transferred to the Auxiliary Shop to ask for information.

### **President: *Reva Ballreich***

Reva reported on the sale of Falconskeape. A main part of the lilac gardens has been bought by Julie London, a lilac enthusiast, who plans to build there, restoring the beds and eventually opening the garden for public viewing during blooming season.

Walter Oakes sends his greetings. He could not come to the meeting this year but will plan to attend next year.

Reva reported that many western lilac gardens, including her own and Max Peterson's, were hit hard by the unseasonable hot then cold weather in the West this year.

Reva is investigating starting some type of lending library to be sponsored by the lilac society which could feature good quality home video/slide shows of various lilac collections or problems often encountered in lilac cultivation and what to do about such problems. Reva also urged that members take advantage of the new 'Swap column' idea in the quarterly *Lilac* journal.

Reva introduced L.D. Allison from Claremore, Oklahoma, and asked him to make a short presentation on the lilac garden that is being developed there. Claremore is in northeast Oklahoma and was the home of Will Rogers. A good selection of plants has been started from donations by Reva Ballreich, Max Peterson and others which are ready to be planted in permanent beds once current road construction is completed. The musical play *OKLAHOMA* was based on the book "Green Grow the Lilacs". Claremore hopes to be the lilac capitol/center for the State of Oklahoma.

### **Elections: *Pauline Fiala***

Pauline reported on the results of the election for the Board of Directors. There was a much better return of ballots this year with 87 ballots being counted as valid (compared to 26 ballots last year)! The five elected to the Board of Directors were Owen M. Rogers, Pauline Fiala, Charles Holetich, Frank Moro and Mary Ann Rennebohm. Colin Chapman was appointed to the Board by President Reva Ballreich to fill out the term of Daniel Ryniec who has resigned.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 noon.



## RECONCILIATION

All ILS funds (U.S.) on hand 4/1/95

Adjusted Checkbook Account 3/31/95	\$ 6,492.08
Edward D. Jones (Acct. #212-03072-1-6)	<u>38,000.00</u>
Total funds available 4/1/95	\$44,492.08
Funds held in Special Accounts	<u>28,454.43</u>
<b>Total funds available in General Account</b>	<b>\$16,037.65</b>

### *Funds being held in SPECIAL ACCOUNTS – 4/1/95*

LIFE MEMBERS/ENDOWMENT FUND – brought fwd. 4/1/94	\$ 8,280.00	
(94 = 63) + 9 = 72 (3/31/95)	\$1,350.00	1,350.00
Timber Press (Lilac Royalites)		
10/4/93	\$1,524.71	
5/3/94	<u>1,298.51</u>	
	\$2,823.22	2,823.22
Transfer Misc. Contributions	\$145.00	
Transfer Misc. Memorial Contributions	200.00	
Misc. Gifts	25.00	
Contribution (Endowment)	<u>80.00</u>	
	\$450.00	450.00
		<u>\$12,903.22</u>
Plant Propagation Fund (Laurene Wishhart)	+37.00	711.00
Education & Research	+196.75	3,774.25
John Wister Memorial Fund	+27.85	534.35
PUBLICATIONS (other than Journal)	+16.57	317.94
C.C. Clark Memorial Fund (Interest credit deferred to)		5,000.00
Arch McKean (Contribution) (Colored Photo Fund)		5,000.00
Colored Photo (JOURNAL) Separation Fund		
Brought Forward 4/1/94	\$108.57	
Anon. Contribution 6/28/94	250.00	
Interest Credit 3/31/95	<u>550.00</u>	
	\$908.57	
Debits 4/1/94 thru 3/31/95		
Vol. 23 No. 2	\$200.00	
Vol. 23 No. 3	171.50	
Vol. 23 No. 4	171.50	
Vol. 24 No. 1	<u>151.50</u>	
	\$694.90	694.90
Balance on hand 3/31/95	\$213.67	213.67
<b>Total Funds being held in SPECIAL ACCOUNTS 4/1/95</b>		<b><u>\$28,454.43</u></b>

## **Regional Report – Eastern Canada: *Frank Moro***

It has been an exciting 8 months for me. I have had quite a few inquiries from French people about the ILS and two that I know of have turned into members. I have written an article for the *Canadian Gardening* which hopefully will be out sometime in the fall of 1995. I have also had the chance to give two talks to different cities who wish to set up lilac parks. One will be in Quebec city where planting should start in 1996 and the other in Morrisburg, Ontario, just 1.5 hours west of Montreal. From the Select Plus postal orders members have been asking for their free Select Plus lilac for being a member with ILS. I believe this has been a good offer and plan to repeat something similar for 1996. For the Quebec population I am going to try to get some free advertising to induce interest in lilacs and the ILS.

I believe that a short article should be written in the quarterly on lilac bloom times across the continent. I would be ready to write it but would need the help from different individuals from different states and provinces. The bloom time could be based on vulgaris cultivars. The reason for this is because I have received two entertaining calls this spring while we've had two feet of snow on the ground asking where their orders were. I don't believe people understand what a 500 mile distance can do to bloom times.

I have also contributed two articles to the ILS quarterly on lilacs and hope members have enjoyed them and I have planned others for upcoming quarterlies.

## **Lilac Distribution Committee Report: *Frank Moro***

I wish everyone well and want to let you know Sara and I have become parents once again on May 10 at 2:09 a.m. 1995. Our second son and fourth child was born at 7 pounds 6 ounces, three weeks prematurely. Mom and baby are doing fine after a little complication and Frank is trying to hold the fort together. I miss not being at the convention this year but fully intend to participate next year.

The outcome of the first two lilac introductions was very good. Some 25 orders have come in from across the North American continent and even today one order from Japan. Comments were made about the difficulty of using the conversion chart from U.S. dollars to Canadian dollars so Select Plus Nursery will remake two new order sheets with a Canadian price and a U.S. Price including shipping and even (in the case of U.S. based customers) include import charges. All future prices will basically include all costs incurred except for taxes in the Canadian case. Because of the complexity of different charges, taxes, exchange rates and export fees I can understand how the customers will be more clear on simpler charges. The unfortunate side to this is that prices will increase slightly to make sure that no money is lost on exchange rates or postal charges.

The unfortunate side of this project is that *Syringa vulgaris* 'Silver King'

rooted cuttings did not take at all. Thus customers will be receiving shortly a letter and full refund explaining the situation. *Syringa hyac.* 'Sweetheart' will be delivered as planned to all customers.

My suggestion for the next introductions before they reach the quarterly is to make some changes on varieties to make sure that quantities are available. Substitutions will be mentioned at the end of the report.

I would like the persons responsible in the committee to discuss also the possibility to not only introduce non commercial lilacs but to also introduce at a lower cost of non commercial lilacs some that are not so well known. The goal of Select Plus is to have 4" potted material 1 year in advance in order to present an excellent product and be sure to be able to fill out orders.

### **Mid-Western Region Report: *Max Peterson***

Greetings from the Plains Region. There isn't much to report for this particular area. The weather has been absolutely crazy. An unusually warm January and February, followed by a below normal temperature in March and April. The eastern part of the area escaped the late hard freezes, but the western part and my collection caught it hard.

Mr. Hoyt Lambert from Omaha, Nebraska, who heads the Lilac collection there, is to be at the convention. Hope you can all talk and plan with him. Also a new member, Mr. Don Maxon of Louisville, Nebraska, is establishing an outstanding beginning for a private collection of Lilacs. He also is an avid collector of very rare and unusual plants. His gardens in the future will be quite outstanding.

I'm sorry to be unable to attend the convention, but with a college graduation and a marriage ceremony to plan, it gets a little hectic. We plan on attending next year. Say hello to everybody for me and have an outstanding and productive convention.

### **California Region Report: *Reva Ballreich***

In the higher elevations of Region 7 severe lilac plant damage was incurred due to very warm weather in January and February then plummeting into the teens almost overnight in March and April. Today, May 7th and it is still snowing with a temperature of 28 degrees. As a result I will have no garden tour this year. A tour of the lower elevations (3,500) also showed a great degree of bud damage. So, as you might suspect, we are all looking forward to next year.

A number of lilac culture lectures are outlined for the next three months. This is such a rewarding area due to new members needing help in getting a good start with their heart's desire, that of having beautiful lilacs.

There are new members in and around the San Francisco area needing guidance in determining which cultivars would grow in that climate. I have been researching this for them.

## Evaluation Committee Report: *Charles Holetich*

Year of 1994 and part of 1995 witnessed the progress in lilac evaluation and related fields.

About 30 lilac cultivars in Katie Osborne Lilac Collection were evaluated, photographed at different stages of bloom development, performance data collected and stored for future reference. The cultivars may now be discarded and its space used for new incoming ones.

Three hundred and fifty lilacs are being planted at this time into permanent location of the newly developed woody ornamental park of city of Sapporo, Japan. In a few years information will start to flow informing us of their performance and adaptability to the new climatic region.

Attempts are also in progress to establish a lilac collection in the mountain range of the Botanic Gardens grounds in Sydney, Australia.

We are still waiting for the information about grafting and growing success of 105 cultivars, mainly of *Syringa vulgaris* ancestry taken to Beijing by Xinlu Chen upon his return to China, after six months research work with lilacs in Hamilton, Ontario. Lilacs are to be planted in grounds of Beijing Agricultural College where Mr. Chen is currently teaching.

Same may be said about 120 plus lilac cultivars which are being evaluated for their ornamental value and adaptability to climates of northern Italy, by Valerie Berselly von Jenisch and Carlo Pagani. An article for the ILS Quarterly may follow, once the plants reach the blooming size.

Total number of lilac scions collected and shipped during last winter was 4400 representing 550 lilacs taxa. By far the greatest recipient was France, followed by England, USA, Germany, Italy, Denmark, Austria and Japan.

Upon return from this conference I am to mail foliage of selected lilacs for DNA tests to Dr. Nick Gawel at University of Tennessee. Some tests performed will be a repetition of those done by Xinlu Chen during 1993. It will be interesting to compare the findings.

Around May 20th 1995 five hundred copies of CD-ROM (compact disc-read only memory) will be offered for sale to the general public as joint venture of the Royal Botanical Gardens and the Biology Department of McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario. The CDs will feature 120 best slide photos of *Syringa vulgaris* cultivars taken by Charles Holetich. All those that have the computer with a color screen capable to read CD-ROM are encouraged to get a copy of the disc, by writing to:

Royal Botanical Gardens  
Box 399  
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada L8N 3H8

The anticipated price per compact disc will be about \$25 U.S. Complete advertisement will appear in a subsequent issue of the Lilac Quarterly. If the project is successful another disc will be put together featuring the lilac species, *×hyacinthiflora* and *×prestoniae* cultivars.

Possibility of transferring 1200 selected slides onto disc was also discussed. There would be in total 10 discs which could function as an excellent educational and planning a Lilac Collection reference.

It would be nice to know if curators of various lilac collections would be interested to purchase such a complete set of CDs if they were made available. Your comments and suggestions are invited by writing to Charles Holetich, at the RBG address mentioned above.



*The CD cover of Royal Botanical Gardens' French Hybrid Lilacs.*



PHOTO BY BRAD BITTORF

***International Lilac Society – 1995 Annual Meeting, Clinton, Iowa***

left to right: 1) Brad Bittorf, 2) Jim Hastings, 3) Ed Hasselkus, 4) Robert Gilbert, 5) Ellen Steward, 6) Bill Horman, 7) Howard Whitescarver, 8) Sabra Gilbert, 9) Peter Ely, 10) Vince Sunderland, 11) Owen Rogers, 12) Eva Dwyer, 13) Charles Holetich, 14) Don Wedge, 15) Irene Potocki-Tobis, 16) Colin Chapman, 17) —, 18) Deborah Barber, 19) Ruth Sipp, 20) —, 21) David Gressley, 22) Kay Heard, 23) —, 24) Frances Davies, 25) —, 26) —, 27) Ann Carvill, 28) John Carvill, 29) —, 30) —, 31) Elizabeth Erickson, 32) Louis Erickson, 33) Hoyt Lambert.

If you are one of those not named would you please let the editor know and we'll publish an updated list in a future issue.



Bill Horman receives a President's Award from Pauline Fiala at the 1995 ILS Banquet. Also pictured are Fran and Bob Bickelhaupt of the host Bickelhaupt Arboretum.



Fran Bickelhaupt accepts an ILS award to the host Bickelhaupt Arboretum from Pauline Fiala as Robert Bickelhaupt looks on.



ALL PHOTOS TAKEN BY BRAD BITTORF

Gerry Kopf, owner of Bald Eagle Nursery, accepts a President's Award at the ILS Banquet, Clinton, Iowa.



The Bickelhaupt Arboretum as seen from the bottom of the "Lilac Hill".



## Editor's Notes

Freek Vrugtman is working on a revision of Father Fiala's book and he writes:

"You and other intensive users of Fiala's book could be of considerable assistance if you let me have your lists of the errors, inconsistencies, omissions and questionable statements you may have spotted in John's book. There are so many little things that are likely to be overlooked. For instance, look in the index under "Thyrses" (misspelled "Thyrses"); it takes you to p. 23, the page is headed: "TYPES OF CLUSTERS" and the term thyrse is neither used nor defined. I just stumbled on it yesterday when someone asked me a question. — I do need all the help I can get! And not just from you, but from the whole club".



In response to a question about the proper notation of a hybrid, Freek also says:

In general the use of nomenclature in **Lilacs** is fine with generic and specific epithets printed in italics and cv. epithets not. But when it comes to hybrids we are way off the track according to Appendix I of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature.

The hybrid sign is a multiplication sign, not the letter x. The multiplication sign must be placed against the initial letter of the name or epithet. The letter x, lower case, may be used if the multiplication sign is not available, such as on typewriters and older word processors. When the letter x is substituted a single space may be left to avoid ambiguity.

Of course most editors/printers transcribe from typed manuscripts to the printer, and that is where the letter x remains and the space is not closed. Consequently everyone believes that that is the way it should be.

It should not be too difficult to get it right (and **Lilacs** may be the first publication in its class to do it right!).



We have been informed of the retirement of Mr. Trevor Cole as Curator for the Dominion Arboretum in Ottawa, Ontario. Now he will have lots of time to work on his lilac collection. Enjoy!



**Lilacs** is set up and printed each quarter by the hard working people at SEECO Services & Ministries in Savannah, New York. They make your

editor look good but that is not always an easy job. They need approximately three weeks to get the color separations done, the type set and all the other steps required to get an issue of **Lilacs** ready for Pauline Fiala to mail it to you. So, we are going to change the deadline dates to help all these people get their part of the job done on time. Below I have listed the deadline and planned publication dates for the four issues of **Lilacs** and, since I don't really expect you to memorize them, I'll try to remember to note the next deadline date in each issue.

Issue	Publication Date	Deadline Date
No. 1, Winter	January 1	December 8
No. 2, Spring	April 1	March 8*
No. 3, Summer	July 1	June 8
No. 4, Autumn	October 1	September 8

\*This date is very important because the Spring issue contains Convention information.

Now, for your quiz. Remember, I am first a college professor!

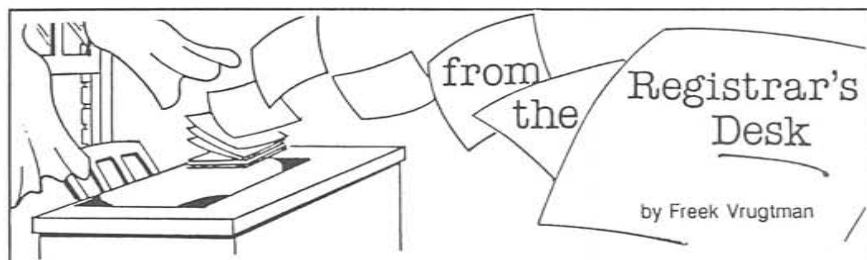
*What is the next deadline date by which you will have some lilac news sent to your editor for publication in the Autumn issue?*

ANSWER: September 8, 1995

## Lilac Swap Column

Reva Ballreich (address inside the front cover) would like to swap a plant of 'Spring Parade' (Fiala) for a plant of 'Murillo' (Lemoine). Can anyone respond?

Also, Mary C. Lizotte, P.O. Box 93, Norwell, MA 02061 is looking for the following plants: 'Ogni Dombassa', 'Paul Thurion', 'Murillo', and Pamyat o 'S.M. Kirove'. She is a fairly new member so doesn't have much to offer as swap, but her interest in lilacs is growing. She writes, "I saw 'Ogni Dombassa' years ago at Roger Luce's in Maine. It took my breath away". Can anyone help Mary?



### *Syringa ×hyacinthiflora* 'Anabel'

The misspelling of the name 'Anabel' in the Cover Story of *Lilacs* Summer, 1994 [23(3):53], reminded me that the name of this lilac often has been misspelled, in the literature as well as in nursery catalogs and on labels in lilac collections. Even the late Fr. John L. Fiala misspelled the name in his book *Lilacs – The Genus Syringa* (Fiala, 1988). – There is an explanation for this confusion.

The first known appearance of the name Annabel, with double-n, in the literature is the listing in *Lilacs for America* (Lilac Survey Committee, 1953):

“ANNABEL AA. No record at OT”.

The name 'Annabel' appears here without description and therefore cannot be considered “validly published” under the rules of the International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants (ICNCP).

In a subsequent search for lilac information Owen Rogers found that the lilac 'Annabel' had been originated by Roy Hawkins, and that its flowers were double and pink. In the Tentative International Register of Cultivar Names in the Genus *Syringa* (Rogers, 1976) the spelling 'Annabel' is retained.

In the late 1970s I saw for the first time a copy of the Spring 1956 catalog of the Lynn County Nurseries, Center Point, Iowa. On page 16 there is listed:

–Anabel. Double. A new lilac offered for the first time this year. A hybrid of *oblata dilatata* having very double light pink flowers in large clusters. Blooming well ahead of the French lilacs and having the large leathery dark green leaves of the *oblata dilatata*. Blooms very young and freely, many plants bloom when only a foot high in the nursery row.

An acceptable name with a description of the cultivar published in a printed catalog with a date, being “. . . offered for the first time this year”, leaves little doubt that this is the original and “valid publication” under the rules of the ICNCP; on this evidence alone the correct name is 'Anabel', spelled with single-n.

There still was some doubt, however, about the intentions of the originator, the late Roy Hawkins, and I kept asking people who knew him or knew about him. The answer came in a letter from the late William (Bill) Heard, Heard Gardens, Des Moines, Iowa, dated 7 January 1977. He wrote:

"I just came upon the following note in one of my father's old copies of **Lilacs for America** (1953):

5-14-62. Roy Hawkins, of La Porte City, Iowa (northwest of Center Point and southeast of Waterloo) visited the nursery and looked over the lilacs. The variety 'Anabel' – named for his wife Annabelle – originated on his place. He had a lilac oblata dilatata in his yard and next to it was a Pres. Viger (double blue and bluish). Thinks that 'Anabel' may be a natural cross of these two varieties. Roy Hawkins said that the only thing he doesn't like about the lilac 'Anabel' is that his wife spells her name Annabelle instead of Anabel."

### **References used:**

- Lilac Survey Committee (J.C. Wister, chairman) of the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboretums. Oct. 1953.  
**Lilacs for America** – report of the 1953 lilac survey. Swarthmore, PA, A.H. Scott Hort. Foundation. p. 25.
- Rogers, O.M. 1976. Tentative international register of cultivar names in the genus *Syringa*. Research Report No. 49, New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station, University of NH, Durham, NH.
- Fiala, J.L. 1988. **Lilacs – The Genus *Syringa***. Portland, Timber Press (p. 101 & Plate 41).
- Personal communication: Heard to Vrugtman, Jan. 7, 1977.

### **Mystery Alert**

Listed on page 39 of the Spring 1994 Wholesale Catalog of Beaver Creek Nursery, Inc., Poplar Grove, Illinois, is:

*Syringa vulgaris* 'Mystery' (lovely single lt blue) 5'

The name also has been entered into the DataScape Botanical Index, 1994 ed. (p. 107), a Guide to Commercial Nomenclature, published annually for the North American horticultural trades.

When searching for the origin of Mystery Lilac we learned that Klehm Nursery of South Barrington, Illinois, had received lilac liners under an erroneous name. In order to distinguish the lilacs in this lot from correctly named ones nursery workers at Klehm's tagged them Mystery Lilac. Inadvertently the name Mystery found its way into the nursery stock

inventory list and some plants were sold. In summary, the name Mystery is not a valid one and must not be used. At the time of writing we do not know the correct name for this lilac, but if and when we find out we will let our readers know. Roy Klehm of Klehm Nursery has assured us that the remainder of the Mystery Lilac stock has been destroyed.

### ***References used:***

Beaver Creek Nursery, Inc.; Spring 1994 Wholesale Catalog, p. 39.

DataScape Botanical Index, 1994 ed.: Guide to commercial nomenclature. American Nurseryman Publishing Co., Chicago. (p.107).

Personal communication (Roy Klehm to Vrugtman of Dec. 21/94 and Feb.15/95).

## **Tips For Beginners**

In the Spring issue of **Lilacs** someone told of a lilac that hadn't bloomed for three years following transplanting. In the answer it was mentioned that three to four years is not uncommon. My problem is a lilac that hasn't bloomed for seven years. What's going on?

**ANSWER:** It could be that seven years is normal for the variety you are growing, but more likely, it is a plant growing in the shade. For best bloom a lilac should be grown in full sun. That means five to six hours (preferably in the middle of the day) per day. Lilacs will grow in fairly dense shade but, as the shade increases, the amount of bloom falls off drastically.

Another version of this problem is that the lilac used to bloom heavily but now has only sparse flower truss production. In this situation one should check the obvious things such as pruning for good new growth and nutrition but also look to see if the young seedling maple has increased size so that it now shades the whole yard including the lilac. In such a situation we can suggest several possible solutions. One, move the lilac; two, cut down the maple or three, move and take your lilac with you! Any of these treatments should return your lilac to its former bloom vigor.



## Awards — May 1995

*International Lilac Society*  
**PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

is presented to

**William H. Horman**  
*Detroit, Michigan*

For outstanding services to the Society over the years,  
and for steadfast promotion of lilacs.

---

*International Lilac Society*  
**PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

is presented to

**Gerry Kopf**  
*proprietor, Bald Eagle Nursery, Fulton, Illinois*

For his agrostologic and horticultural projects, including lilacs.

---

*International Lilac Society*  
**PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

is presented to

**Robert E. and Frances K. Bickelhaupt**

For their vision and dedication  
in establishing Bickelhaupt Arboretum  
and  
For hosting the Society's 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.

## Awards — May 1995

*International Lilac Society*  
**AWARD OF MERIT**

is presented to

---

**Gary Herrity**

*Clinton, Iowa*

For his research into the history of  
Clinton and the Mississippi River

---

**Julie Allesee**

*of Clinton Convention and Visitors Bureau*

In grateful appreciation for making its  
24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting successful

---

**Leasa Brown**

*Clinton, Iowa*

For facilitating the Society's 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

---

**William M'Adams**

*Iowa Department of Agriculture*

For his contribution to the Flower Coordinate method  
of insect control especially as applied to lilacs.

---

**BICKELHAUPT ARBORETUM**

*Clinton, Iowa*

A private operating foundation  
For its public educational and horticultural program

---

**Delbert and Marie Dudley**

*Clinton, Iowa*

For their hospitality at its 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting  
at the Bickelhaupt Arboretum

## 1996 Convention

Now that the 1995 convention is reported in print, it's time to start packing for the 1996 convention. It will be held in Poughkeepsie, New York from May 16th through May 19th. The main part of the convention will be on Friday and Saturday but there will be a Board meeting etc. on Thursday and possibly an optional all day Hudson River cruise on Sunday. Bob and Sabra Gilbert will be our hosts and they already have a great convention planned out. The Hyde Park region is a beautiful area and we will travel to several scenic spots including the Vanderbilt mansion and Roosevelt's home in Hyde Park. Add to these events a great list of speakers (including Colin Chapman on "Growing Lilacs in Europe") and you can see that it's time to get the car gassed up and the suitcases down from the attic so you won't be late for what promises to be a great convention.

Now is also the time to be planning ahead for lilac plants for the 1996 Lilac Auction. If you have some or need more information, love and encouragement, contact Bob Gilbert at the address on the inside of the front cover. He would really like to hear from you.

Remember **MAY 16th-19th, 1996.** See you there!

## Letters

### *from Birchwood*

by Robert Clark

The lilac display in northern New England was late and brief in 1995. January's thaw activated bulbs and stimulated buds. Then winter settled in for almost four months. In May night temperatures hovered around 40°F almost into June. Many lilac gardeners reported disappointment because last autumn's fat buds produced only leaves this season! The old-fashioned false blue lilacs came through in usual abundance.

At Birchwood on Lake Winnepesaukee several early hybrids bloomed well: 'Anabel' and 'Dr. Chadwick' as well as 'Birchwood' itself were rewarding. Two Russian transplants ('Krasavitsa Moskvyy' and 'Ogni Donbassa') produced a few clusters to prove that their release from the shade was welcome. And, of course, the little-leaved lilacs (*microphylla* 'Superba' and Meyer 'Palibin') also came through splendidly.

Encouraging reports are coming in that lilac collections are being planted and one-time notable collections restored in the northeastern states and even into Nebraska. Am I dreaming, or is there indeed on the horizon a lilac awakening? Like every gardener I am filled with hope.

### *from Peru, New York*

June 21, 1995

To The Editor,

I am writing about some of my experiences in building a lilac collection. I have 56 kinds of lilacs spread about on approximately 2 acres. In 1984 I purchased a Belle de Nancy, DV and it blossomed SVI; In 1988 a Pres. Grevy, DIII, and it blossomed a SIII and is a Pres. Lincoln; In 1990 a Katie Havemeyer, a DV and it blossomed a SVII with huge florets and I suspect it is a Glory by Havemeyer; in 1991 a Charles Joly; a DVII and it blossomed a DI, obviously not a Charles Joly; In 1992 a Gertrude Leslie, a DI and it blossomed a SIV; and also from the same nursery in 1992, a Royal Purple, another of Skinner's early lilacs and it blossomed from 20 May through 16 June which is very different from my Assesippi and Maiden's Blush which blossomed from 12 May through 3 and 4 June. I am suspicious that it isn't a Royal Purple because of its late blooming, but I've never had a lilac that bloomed that long before either and it may just be a misbehaving cultivar. Except for one purchase at a Farm Center, these lilacs were purchased from legitimate nurseries; two in Vermont, one in New York and one in Ohio. This isn't just a problem with lilacs as my wife purchased four bush

cinque foils and was insistent that they be white. The sales person carefully picked out four white ones and showed her the labels. Three blossomed a bright yellow and one a pale yellow.

My Lemoine's have been virtually insect-proof so far and even the moles, field mice, and rabbits appear to be leaving them alone. Not the same for my summer lilacs. The Great Ash Sphinx larva about defoliated my Miss Canada before I became aware of them. I experimented with some Lemoine leaves in a cage with two of the larva and they starved to death. This year the Rose Chafers went after my Donald Wyman while not bothering any Lemoines nearby. All my summer lilacs seem to be a favorite of rodents. I've taken to screening the lilacs for the winter and this has been successful, though a chore.

Vincent E. Sunderland  
Peru, NY 12972

### from Mr. Lu Chin

*Note: The following letter was received in April by Charles Holetich*

Dear Charles,

I am really sorry for delay to write you because I was busy applying for research funds from Chinese Government from January to April 1995. During this time, I finished four application forms from different institutes, but I do not know whether I would succeed or not.

At the end of 1994, I planned to send scions or seeds of wild lilacs and I collected scions and seeds of *Syringa pubescens*, *S. oblata* and *S. pekinensis* (They are still kept in my home.) When I went to apply for export permission from Beijing Forestry Bureau, I found that it would cost too much as I apply for a permission for two or three species one time. Therefore, I decide that I collect and introduce species from different areas in China first. Within valid time of import permission you sent, I will send you as many as possible one time. I will finish what I promised in Canada.

In February of 1995, I received and reviewed new manuscript by Mr. P.S. Green and M.C. Chang. In this paper, they changed names of several species, for example.

<i>S. pekinensis</i> .....	<i>S. reticulata</i> ssp. <i>pekinensis</i>
<i>S. reticulata</i> var. <i>amurensis</i> .....	<i>S. reticulata</i> ssp. <i>amurensis</i>
<i>S. potaninii</i> .....	<i>S. pubescens</i> ssp. <i>microphylla</i> var. <i>potaninii</i>
<i>S. komarowii</i> .....	<i>S. komarowii</i> ssp. <i>komarowii</i>
<i>S. reflexa</i> .....	<i>S. komarowii</i> ssp. <i>reflexa</i> etc.

After reviewing, I wrote letter to Mr. P.S. Green and discussed some treatments with him. As a result, he agreed with my opinion to their

treatments and maintained classification of some species (*S. pinetorum*, *S. wardii*, *S. mairer*, *S. dilatata* etc.). This paper will be published in 1995. These new changes will appear in new version of Flora of China. Through new classification of Mr. P.S. Green. I think that many new problems of these species are not clearly solved and that they will be studied via molecular markers in the level of population.

Please give my best wishes to your family.

Cordially,

Lu

### *from the Registrar*

International Registration Authority (IRA)

for cultivar names in the genus *Syringa*

Re: ILS Archives

As you may recall, in 1990/91 an *ad hoc* committee of the ILS, namely Mrssrs. Eickhorst, Fordham, Martin & Tortorici, approached Royal Botanical Gardens in their efforts to find an appropriate repository for the ILS Archives. The details were worked out in 1991/92 between ILS President Ryniec and RBG Director Paterson.

Perhaps it is an understatement to say that access to the material in the ILS Archives by the Lilac Registrar would be highly desirable, if not essential, for the purpose of checking factual information concerning old and new, registered and unregistered lilac cultivars and their names, and for the proposed revisions and updates of the International Register of lilac cultivars and of John Fiala's **Lilacs: The Genus *Syringa***.

With the special funds made available through ILS for processing the accumulated archival material by an outside firm we had hoped for a speedy transfer of the archives to RBG; however, the process appears to have been delayed and the material is still not accessible.

It is most unfortunate that both members of the ILS Archives Committee are in ill health; we wish Dr. Thomas Delendick and Daniel Ryniec a speedy recovery.

In the meantime, may we urge the ILS Executive and the ILS Board of Directors to take a special interest and do their utmost to get the work on the ILS Archives completed and to get the Archives moved to the Royal Botanical Gardens.

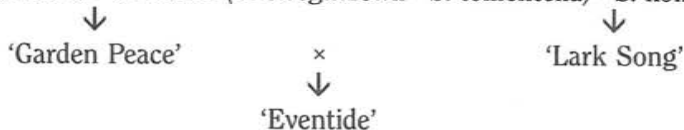
Respectfully yours,  
Freek Vrugtman



## 'Eventide' Is Not A *S. vulgaris* Cultivar

In reply to a query, Freek Vrugtman provided the following genealogy for 'Eventide' which is listed in Father Fiala's book as a *S. vulgaris* cultivar and as an "interspecific hybrid" in the 1990 Addenda and Corrigenda.

*S. komarowii* × *S. wolfeii* (*S. sweginzowii* × *S. tomentella*) × *S. komarowii*



See also *Fiala* pp.124, 187, 224 and Plate 56.

If you have this cultivar, you should note this information.

## Research Notes

Editor's Note: These abstracts taken from Horticultural Abstracts give an indication of the kind of research on lilacs that is being done around the world.

WALDENMAIER, S.; BÜNEMANN, G. [*In vitro* culture of *Syringa vulgaris* hybrids. II. Development and propagation of cuttings *ex vitro*.] *In-vitro-Kultur von Syringa vulgaris*-Hybriden. II. Wachstum und Stecklingsvermehrbarkeit *ex vitro*. *Gartenbauwissenschaft* (1993) **58** (3) 104-110 [De, en, 33 ref.] Institut für Obstbau und Baumschule, Universität Hannover, 31157 Sarstedt, Germany.

*In vitro*-raised *S. vulgaris* plants (cultivars Katherine Havemeyer and Charles Joly) sprayed to run-off with GA<sub>3</sub> at 100 and 500 p.p.m. weekly for 4 consecutive weeks showed significant growth increases during the first year after treatment and proved suitable as stock for stem production. Atrinal (dieregulac sodium) at 0.4 and 0.6% a.i., Ethrel (ethephon 47.4%) at 100 p.p.m. and severe pruning (to within 5 cm of the root collar) increased branching, these treatments being suitable for shrub production. Both GA<sub>3</sub> and Atrinal caused some phytotoxicity. Cutting from *in vitro*-raised *S. vulgaris* cv. Andenken an Ludwig Späth plants showed a higher rooting percentage and better growth than those from cutting-propagated and grafted stock plants.

PILARSKI, J. Ultrastructure of chloroplasts in the bark and leaves of lilac (*Syringa vulgaris* L.). *Acta Physiologiae Plantarum* (1993) 15 (4) 241-248 [en, 21 ref., 12 pl.] Department of Plant Physiology, Polish Academy of Sciences, 31-016 Kraków, Poland.

Electron microscopic studies of lilac shoot bark and leaves showed that

in summer (June) the chloroplasts were packed with large starch grains, were round in shape and appeared morphologically similar in both organs. If plants were shaded for 2 weeks, the chloroplasts contained little or no starch. Their ultrastructure was then more clearly visible; the bark chloroplasts contained fewer thylakoids in the grana and the latter were less regular in shape than those in the leaf chloroplasts. In winter, the bark chloroplasts lacked starch and were similar in shape and ultrastructure to summer chloroplasts in shaded plants. No distinct ultrastructural differences were observed between chloroplasts from shoots of different ages (current year, 1-, 2- and 3-year-old) in winter. However, chloroplasts in the outer part of the bark had a less developed thylakoid system than those in the inner part.

PILARSKI, J. Intensity of oxygen production in the process of photosynthesis in shoots and leaves of lilac (*Syringa vulgaris* L.) *Acta Physiologiae Plantarum* (1993) 15 (4) 249-256 [En, 14 ref.] Department of Plant Physiology, Polish Academy of Sciences, 31-016 Kraków, Poland.

The rate of  $O_2$  production in the Hill reaction was determined in a suspension of chloroplasts obtained from the bark of current year, 1-, 2-, and 3-year-old shoots and from the leaves. Rate declined with increasing shoot age, being 42% lower in 3-year-old than in current-year shoots. Leaf chloroplasts were about 40% more active than chloroplasts from current-year shoots. The amount of  $O_2$  produced ranged from 27.7 to  $65.5 \times 10^{-3} \mu\text{mol } O_2 \text{ (mg chlorophyll)}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$  (chloroplasts from 3-year-old bark and leaves, respectively). In terms of chlorophyll/ $\text{m}^2$  area of tissue, the intensity of production ranged from 1.154 to  $3.915 \text{ mmol } O_2 \text{ m}^{-2} \text{s}^{-1}$  for 3-year-old bark and for leaves, respectively (data collected in Sep.). Chloroplasts from shoots exhibited maximum activity in spring whereas those from leaves did so in autumn.

LI, R.H.; ZANG, S.Y.; ZHANG, Z.M. [Study of hybrid embryos of *Syringa persica*  $\times$  *S. vulgaris* 'Alba-Plena' in *in vitro* culture.] *Acta Horticulture Sinica* (1992) 19 (2) 187-188 [Ch] Beijing Botanical Garden, Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences, 1000093 Beijing, China.

Hybrid seed set from the cross was 49.1% compared with 12.4% from open pollination of *S. persica*. The germination percentage of the hybrid seed was only 1% compared with 4.4% of that from open pollination. The culture of hybrid embryos isolated 85-95 days after pollination improved the germination percentage of 12.7%. Use of a rooting medium improved the survival of material for transplanting.

PIKALEVA, A.V. [List of lilac cultivars under cultivation in botanic gardens.] *Byulleten' Glavnogo Botanicheskogo Sada* (1992) No. 164, 38-48 [Ru, 7 ref.] Botanicheskii Sad, Moskovskii Gosudarstvennyi Universitet, Moscow, Russia.

Tabular data are presented on the number of cultivars held at 19 botanic

gardens in the Ukraine, Russia, Uzbekistan, Belarus, Estonia and Kazakhstan, and an alphabetical list is given of 255 foreign and 151 native cultivars, with an indication of flower colour group and type of flower. The list is in English, each name being followed by its Russian equivalent.

KNONENBERG, H.G. **Temperature influences on the flowering dates of *Syringa vulgaris* L. and *Sorbus aucuparia* L.** *Scientia Horticulturae* (1994) 57 (1-2) 59-71 [En, 12 ref.] Laboratory of Horticulture, Wageningen Agricultural University, 6708 PM Wageningen, Netherlands.

A model which relates flowering date in *S. vulgaris* to spring temperature is described. This model is based on the observations that flowering date in *S. vulgaris* is determined by a cold requirement of 400 h at temperatures below 7°C followed by reaching a temperature sum (heat sum) which ranges from 340 degree-days in S. Europe to 420 degree-days in N. Europe, in a period with mean daily maximum temperatures of at least 9.5°. Comparisons of flowering dates of *S. aucuparia* with those of *S. vulgaris* for several sites throughout Europe enabled a similar model to be developed for *S. aucuparia*. *S. aucuparia* flowers after satisfying a cold requirement of 750 h at a temperature below 7° followed by reaching a temperature sum of 160 degree-days (using 6° as the base temperature) in a period when the mean daily temperature is above 6°.

YAND, G.; READ, P.E. **Influence of plant growth regulators and season on growth responses of forced woody stems.** *Acta Horticulturae* (1992) No. 300, 173-176 ISBN 90-6605-025-X [En, 9 ref., *In vitro* culture. XXIIIrd International Horticultural Congress, Florence, Italy, 30 Aug. 1990.] Department of Horticulture, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68583-0724, USA.

Stems of dormant *Spiraea* × *Vanhoutte's* [*S. vanhouttei*], *Ligustrum vulgare* [*L. vulgare*], *Syringa vulgaris*, *Viburnum dentatum*, *Cornus sericea*, *Prunus virginiana* and *Eleagnus* [*Elaeagnus*] *angustifolia* (each 20-25 cm long) were collected at approx. monthly intervals from Dec. 1987 to Mar. 1988 and from Sep. 1988 to Mar. 1989. After disinfestation and rinsing, the basal ends of the stems were freshly cut and immersed in a forcing solution containing 100 mg 8-hydroxyquinoline citrate/litre and 2% sucrose, with or without the addition of a growth regulator (BA, GA<sub>3</sub>, IAA, NAA, thidiazuron (TDZ) or IBA) at various concentrations. GA<sub>3</sub> in the forcing solution increased and hastened bud break and promoted shoot elongation, compared with controls. BA and TDZ each increased percentage bud break but delayed its onset. IAA, NAA and IBA each inhibited bud break and shoot elongation. Small differences were observed due to the season of shoot collection, probably as a result of the buds' cold requirement being partially or completely met in shoots collected in late winter.

## Additional Research Notes

Editor's Note: The abstract below was submitted by Peter Green who found it in the 1923 *Bulletin of Miscellaneous Information, Kew*. I don't know how many readers are familiar with "Brazilian tulipwood", but this is one of the very few articles I have ever seen about lilac wood.

**Lilac Wood** (*Syringa vulgaris*, L.). – Very little appears to have been published about this wood and the following remarks are based on an examination of specimens grown at Kew. The wood is slow-growing, small, 4-8 in. in diameter, hard, close-grained, heavy; the sap-wood cream coloured or pale yellow, and in mature bushes confined to 10-13 annual rings; the heart-wood brown with irregular reddish marks of varying intensity, rather like the markings in "Brazilian tulip wood" (*Physocalymma scaberrimum*). The reddish marking imparts a distinct character to the wood. In a transverse section the marks appear as wavy rings roughly following the outline of the trunk but not confined to the course of definite annual rings. In a tangential section the reddish colour is very pronounced. Near the centre of the trunk or branch it is seen as well defined longitudinal lines but nearer the outside it appears as rather broad bands. In a radial section it is also seen in lines; the intervening wood in each case is flecked or slightly stained with red. The pores are very small and numerous particularly in the spring wood; they are not easily seen without a lens and even with a lens those in the late wood are not very clear. The medullary rays are very fine and evenly spaced, about 100 occupying the space of half an inch: They are scarcely visible without a lens. The wood works with a smooth, glassy surface, its working qualities being more nearly comparable with box than with any other well known wood, although it is less dense than box. The finished surface is comparable with box and yew. Although too scarce to be of any commercial importance, it can be effectively used for small articles for turnery and those persons who cut down large bushes might have small dainty household articles manufactured after carefully seasoning the wood.

– William Dallimore

# International Lilac Society

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*Don Wedge and Charles Holcich confer on the top deck of the Mississippi Belle II during the 1995 ILS Convention.*