

# Lilacs

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## ***QUARTERLY JOURNAL***

of the International Lilac Society

*IN  
THIS  
ISSUE:*      **Convention Proceedings  
Election Ballot**

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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.

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LILACS 2003

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Has spring finally arrived? It has been a long cold and snowy winter here along the southern shore of Lake Ontario. Snow cover from before Christmas right through most of March totaling nearly 140 inches. Fortunately, Marcia and I had a two-week reprieve – visiting friends in Florida.

The Highland Park Lilac Collection has been saved for now with the restoration of three Horticulture positions including ILS Board member Kent Milham. However, things may not be as rosy at RBG, where ILS Board member and Lilac Curator Bruce Peart was let go. Let's hope all bodes well for this premier Lilac Collection.

Last Year's annual meeting was held in early April near the Pacific Ocean. This year we will be fairly near the Atlantic Ocean and will be meeting June 5 through 8, 2003. As you approach the site of this year's meeting, billows of lilacs, white fences, shaded lanes and glimpses of the mighty St. Lawrence River will greet you. The later date should provide an opportunity to enjoy a second occasion to experience our favorite flower, which abounds in the village of Cap-à-l'Aigle. Unlike recent meetings in large metropolitan areas this year our meeting will be held in a unique village setting. I have been promised that the familiar fragrance of lilacs will be accompanied by exceptional food and friendliness. The Cap-à-l'Aigle committee has put together an exciting program including the inauguration of their official Lilac Garden. Plan on joining us and partake of our northern neighbor's unique hospitality.

## IN MEMORIAM

### ROGER F. LUCE

*Educator, Historian, and Horticulturist*

Roger F. Luce, 82, son of the late Henry and Ethel Chase Luce, died at Harbor Hill Rehabilitation Center in Belfast, Maine on November 29, 2002. He was born on January 30, 1920, in Newburgh, Maine at the family farm, where he resided for much of his life.

He attended Eastern State Normal School in Castine, Maine, and graduated with honors from the University of Maine in 1946, where he received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Education. He continued his studies at the University of Connecticut, earning a Master's Degree in Education. He then enrolled in several courses at the New York Botanical Garden. Two years later he studied abroad at Manchester University in England followed by a year at the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece.

His teaching career, spanning three decades, began in Bradley and Bucksport, Maine, where he served as a principal. In 1947 he accepted a position in Connecticut with the Darien Public School System teaching Social Studies and English. He took great satisfaction in mentoring and coaching thousands of young students.

After retiring, he considered himself highly fortunate to have been allowed on the first botanical excursion into central China, one of the three trips he took in the years of 1979, 1981, and 1983. During these trips, he visited the Lushan Gardens in south-west China and the gardens of Shanghai, among others, as well as some areas of Korea. He brought gifts to his hosts in China and Korea in the form of seeds and books, and received in return seeds and plant material from Chinese temples that have since become mature specimens in his gardens.

He was a long-time member of the International Lilac Society where his dedicated work as a Director of the Society and chairman of the Lilac Seed Distribution Committee enabled many lilac enthusiasts to obtain rare species. He made three trips to China from where he obtained and brought back new lilac materials especially in *Syringa reticulata* and for which he was awarded the Society's Award of Merit in 1984.

He also belonged to many other horticultural societies including the Magnolia Society, the American Rhododendron Society, the Primula Society, the American Rock Garden Society, the Alpine Garden Society, and the Daylily Society. A true Renaissance man, he loved history, travel, antiques, fine art, ballet and music, and excelled in the areas of photography, serigraphy, gourmet cooking, and, of course, horticulture.

His four brothers Freeman, Alvah, Ronald, and George predeceased him. His sister Eleanor Luce Hardy, his brother-in-law, Vernon Hardy, and many nieces and nephews survive him.

A memorial service will be held in the spring at the convenience of the family. Memorial donations may be made out to The University of Maine, and sent to The Roger F. Luce Scholarship Fund, c/o Sharon Melanson, PO Box 550, Orono, ME 04473-0550.

## EDITOR'S PAGE

### Electronic Copy

Our printer tells me that if we can submit articles by electronic copy, we could shorten the time it takes to go from deadline date to the date the issue appears in your mailbox. We are fully aware that not all submissions are available on e-copy, but if the multiple paged articles or articles that contain special diacritical marks (see Freek's notes from the Registrar's Desk in this issue) could be sent that way, we could cut down on time involved and on typographical mistakes.

If you can / will try submission this way, your Editor, who is only semi-literate on a computer, will be willing to help aid or assist you in any way. Write - I'll answer. In the meantime if you send a hard copy to the Editor and an electronic copy to the printer who's e-mail address is: [d Robbins@ny.tds.net](mailto:d Robbins@ny.tds.net) we would be off and running.

### Covers

Front Cover: Bed & Breakfast at Cap-à-l'Aigle. St. Lawrence in background.  
Back Cover: Lilacs at Cap-à-l'Aigle.

### Quarterly Reminder

Fertilize your lilacs as soon as growth starts. A fertilizer such as 5-10-10 is best, but 10-10-10 is also a good one. Be prepared to prune as soon as the flowers fade.

### Next Issue Deadline

The deadline for the summer issue will be June 8. This will be right after the convention so plan ahead to get your reports / contributions in on time.

David Gressley notes that Roger G. Cogshall and Evie King have donated three ILS memberships to their local libraries. John and Ann Carvill have also been supporting their local library with an ILS membership for years. Both Syringa Plus and the Carvills are to be complimented for this effort. Others could also be part of the promotion of the lilac by donating a gift membership to their local library and spreading the word about ILS.

## 2003 Convention Information

Longer days, warmer weathers, are signs that spring will soon be here. Within a month or so, nature will be blooming, and Cap-à-l'Aigle Village des lilas will deck out in all her finery. But before, there are still a few things that we have to tell you about to make sure that the next International Lilac Society Convention will know a great success. Talking about the Convention, we want to inform you that another activity has been added to the schedule: The visit to two private gardens of Charlevoix scheduled just after brunch on Sunday morning. You will really enjoy this visit. This is a must.

Even if we have planned sun and warm weather for the entire Convention period, it may be different. Better to bring warm clothes and rain coat just in case it would not be as warm and sunny as expected. As Cap-à-l'Aigle overlooks the blue and majestic St. Lawrence River it can be quite windy sometimes. But we are sure that the warm and friendly welcome you will receive from the people of Charlevoix, long renowned for their tradition of hospitality, will warm you up. You may be also interested to know that the Charlevoix region was named as a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO, the first populated region in the world to be named so.

### *Driving Facilities*

Travelers can get to Cap-à-l'Aigle by ferry, car, plane (to Québec City), private boat, or a combination of these. Most major Canadian & American airline companies fly into the Aéroport de Québec (Jean Lesage airport) Québec City. The guest could then rent a car or take the bus to LMR. Charter Flights are also available from Montreal to Charlevoix. The Aéroport de Charlevoix offers charter flights from Montreal - Tel: 1-418-452-3417.

Maritimes "Using the Ferry": Guests coming through the Maritimes save driving time by taking the ferry from Rivière-du-Loup to St-Siméon.

Rates are vehicle + per person rates as follows: The base rate for a car is \$25.00; Per adult - \$10.40 (12 years & up); Per child - \$6.90 (5-11 years); Free for child up to age 5 years. Rates are subject to change without notice. Crossing takes approximately 55 minutes. Whales are sometimes seen from the ferry (What a neat added bonus!) Reservations are not necessary, however it is suggested that they arrive one hour prior to crossing. For Rates and Ferry crossing schedule, phone numbers are: 1-418-862-9545 Rivière-du-loup, and 1-418-638-2856 St-Siméon.

Airport Jean Lesage: Cap-à-l'Aigle is approximately 90 minutes east of Québec City. There is no shuttle service - guests can either take a taxi or limousine (approx. \$200.00 from Québec City) or rent a car (approximately \$40 to \$50 per day) Aéroport de Québec, Québec City. Aéroport de Charlevoix offers charter flights from Montreal; Tel: 1-418-452-3417.

From the Québec Airport: Take autoroute 440 East toward Ste-Anne de Beaupré (30 minutes). Continue on route 138 East until you arrive in La Malbaie – Cap-à-l'Aigle (60 minutes). At Pointe-au-Pic, you will need to turn on your left, cross the bridge and turn right, and follow the signs to Cap-à-l'Aigle. Cap-à-l'Aigle is approximately 90 minutes east of Québec City.

From Montréal to Cap-à-l'Aigle: The trip from Montréal to Cap-à-l'Aigle takes about four hours. From Montréal, you take the highway 40 east towards Québec City (From Montréal to Québec – 2 – 2.5 hours). In Québec, the 40 east becomes the highway 440 east. Take the exit Sainte-Anne-De-Beaupré. (From Québec City to Ste. Anne – 30 minutes). In Sainte-Anne, you will automatically be on the 138 East. Follow this road and the signs for LA MALBAIE. (From Ste. Anne to Cap-à-l'Aigle – 60 minutes) At LA MALBAIE, you will need to turn on your left, cross the bridge and turn right, and follow the signs to Cap-à-l'Aigle. Cap-à-l'Aigle is approximately 90 minutes east of Québec City.

From Montreal to Cap-à-l'Aigle: The trip from Montréal to Cap-à-l'Aigle takes about 4 hours. From Montréal, you take the highway 40 east towards Québec City (From Montréal to Québec – 2-2.5 hours). In Québec, the 40 east becomes the highway 440 east. Take the exit Sainte-Anne-De-Beaupré. (From Québec City to Ste. Anne – 30 minutes). In Sainte-Anne, you will automatically be on the 138 East. Follow this road and the signs for LA MALBAIE. (From Ste. Anne to Cap-à-l'Aigle – 60 minutes) At LA MALBAIE, you will need to turn on your left, cross the bridge and turn right, and follow the signs to Cap-à-l'Aigle.

### ***Hotel Facilities***

In most of the bed and breakfasts you will not find more than five rooms in the operator's home or an adjacent building and breakfast is served on site. These establishments will provide you a warm and cozy atmosphere, and all the comfort you could want at a competitive rate. Most of them have websites that you can visit at your convenience.

[www.aubergelamansarde.com](http://www.aubergelamansarde.com)

Some of the rooms are classified in "INN regular" and others in "B&B regular"

[www.charlevoix.qc.ca/eauxvives](http://www.charlevoix.qc.ca/eauxvives)

Classified in "INN regular".

[www.quebecinformation.com/clairevilleneuve](http://www.quebecinformation.com/clairevilleneuve)

Classified in "B&B regular".

[www.charlevoix.qc.ca/victoria](http://www.charlevoix.qc.ca/victoria)

Some of the rooms are classified in "INN regular and suites" and others in "B&B deluxe".

[www.quebecweb.com/petiteplaisance](http://www.quebecweb.com/petiteplaisance)

Classified in "B&B deluxe".

[www.quebecweb.com/fleursdelune](http://www.quebecweb.com/fleursdelune)

Some of the rooms are classified in "INN regular and suites" and others in "B&B deluxe" and this is the one with the cottage for four persons.

[www.aubergedespeupliers.com](http://www.aubergedespeupliers.com)

All of the rooms are classified in "INN deluxe".



Three inns or B&B don't have a website but you can easily figure that they are quite similar to the others.

The difference between the regular and the deluxe room in each category was subjectively made and was fixed by the price, the luxury of the place, the services and the view over the St. Lawrence River.

As soon as we receive your registration form, a member of the Cap-à-l'Aigle Village des lilas Committee will call you to give you further information and ask about your needs and concerns. Sometime in April we will send you the final schedule and a road map of Cap-à-l'Aigle. If you have any questions, or if you want further information about the next convention, don't hesitate to contact us.

Cap-à-l'Aigle Village des lilas

Caroline Dion

Phone number: (418) 665-2127

E-mail: [villagedeslilas@qc.aira.com](mailto:villagedeslilas@qc.aira.com) Website: [www.villagedeslilas.com](http://www.villagedeslilas.com)

## Lilac Auction Update - 2003

The annual ILS AUCTION will be held as usual and should you have any lilac (non-plant) items which you might donate to the auction you are welcomed to bring them along. Your lilac purchases will come with the required certificates to get them through customs without a problem (the details are still being worked out on this procedure) - so plan to buy a lilac of your choice!! Bruce Peart and Frank Moro are working on obtaining the necessary plants for the auction which will come mostly from Canadian sources since getting the plants through customs from the USA might be a problem.

I hope that the initial information about this convention, as found in several pages and forms in this Lilac Journal, will enable you to begin your planning as early as possible. There are contact names and e-mail addresses listed to assist you if necessary. You may also contact Peter Ely of the ILS Convention Committee at e-mail [SEly\\_634929@aol.com](mailto:SEly_634929@aol.com) or phone 203-888-2628.

The International Lilac Society Convention is still a few months away in June, 2003, but in the middle of the winter we need to know that things are all coming together for the ILS Auction. Here I whet your spring appetite with tasty treats of colour of what to expect at the ILS Auction. This is only the appetizer for the main meal! Through the kind and generous donation from Konrad Kircher of Germany, Select Plus (Frank Moro), Quebec and myself at RBG here in Ontario, we will have many different cultivars for you to deliberate over. As you can see

from the list there are many '**must have**' lilacs for your garden or collection. Start making your wish list now! So get ready for the auction of a lifetime. We are working on having phytosanitary certificates available so returning to other countries after the auction will not be a concern. Also we are looking at having access to debit and credit equipment so you can all purchase your lilacs through either payment method. All of the money raised from the auction goes directly to the ILS account so your eager, successful, and fun bidding will benefit you with your new lilac, and the ILS. Thanks for all of your continuing support. See you at the 2003 Quebec Lilac conference.

## **Tentative Convention Schedule**

### **Thursday, June 5, 2003**

- Noon to 10 pm:* Registration all day  
*4:30 pm:* Cocktail offered by the Cap-à-l'Aigle Village des lilas Committee  
*6 pm:* Welcoming Dinner offered by the  
Cap-à-l'Aigle Village des lilas Committee  
*8 pm to 9:30 pm:* Board of Director's meeting after the welcoming dinner.

### **Friday, June 6, 2003**

- 9 am:* Conference by Mr. Roch Giguère about some of the most beautiful gardens of Charlevoix.  
*Noon:* Lunch at the Place l'Aiglon Room  
*1:30 pm:* Conference by Bruce Peart, Horticultural Consultant, about the Mackinac Island Project update  
*3 to 5 pm:* International Lilac Society lilac Auction  
*6:30 pm:* President's Dinner at Lac-des-Pins  
Annual meeting after the dinner.

### **Saturday, June 7, 2003**

- 9 am:* Conference about the project of the Garden of Cap-à-l'Aigle  
*Noon:* Hot-dog Party  
*1 pm:* Official inauguration and visit of the Garden  
*3 pm:* Conference by Mr. Larry Hodgson, horticulturist, journalist, contributor to newspaper Le Soleil, TV shows and magazines about important gardens of Canada  
*6:30 pm:* Awards Banquet (Gastronomic dinner)

### **Sunday, June 8, 2003**

- 8 am:* Board of Directors' meeting  
*9 am:* Sunday brunch provided by the Cap-à-l'Aigle Committee  
*11 am:* Activities in the Garden  
*Noon:* Departure

The Mackinac Island Lilac Report will be presented by Bruce Peart, Horticultural Consultant and Margaret Walton, GIS coordinator of the Royal Botanical

Gardens (RBG). Over the last few years the RBG has offered a program to assist other lilac collections with a way to document their collection on a map. Mackinac Island Lilac Collection was chosen as the prototype to this project. The results will be relayed on to you at this presentation and the many possibilities this project will have on many other public and private lilac collections. The mapping is only as good as the documentation information we receive for the project.

## Auction List

<u>Species</u>	<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>Colour</u>
josikaea		
laciniata		
meyeri	Palibin	S V
microphylla	Superba	S V
oblata	var. affinis	S I
oblate		
persica		
× prestoneae	Helen (Skinner)	S V-I
× prestoneae	Donald Wyman	S VII
× prestoneae	Telimena	S V
reticulata	City of Toronto	S I
villosa		
× chinensis	Saugeana	SV-VII
× hyacinthiflora	Angel White	S I
× hyacinthiflora	Asessippi S IV	
× hyacinthiflora	California Rose	S V
× hyacinthiflora	Clarke's Giant	S III
× hyacinthiflora	Dark Night	S VII
× hyacinthiflora	Esther Staley	S VI
× hyacinthiflora	Lavender Lady	S VII
× hyacinthiflora	Maiden's Blush	S V
× hyacinthiflora	Mount Baker	S I
× hyacinthiflora	Pocahontas	S VII
× hyacinthiflora	Sunset	D VI
Int Sp Hyd	Minuet	S VII
Int Sp Hyd	Miss Canada	S V
Int Sp Hyd	Miss Kim	S II
Int Sp Hyd	Tinkerbelle (Bailebelle)	S V
× josiflexa	Agnes Smith	S I
× josiflexa	Anna Amhoff	S I
× josiflexa	James Macfarlane	S V
× josiflexa	Lynette	S VII
josikaea		
laciniata		
meyeri	Palibin	S V
microphylla	Superba	S V

<u>Species</u>	<u>Cultivar</u>	<u>Colour</u>
oblatea	var. affinis	S I
oblate		
persica		
× prestoneae	Helen (Skinner)	S V-I
× prestoneae	Donald Wyman	S VII
× prestoneae	Telimena	S V
reticulata	City of Toronto	S I
villosa		
vulgaris	Adelaide Dunbar	D VII
vulgaris	Alphonse Lavallee	D IV
vulgaris	Amethyst	S V
vulgaris	Amor	S VI
vulgaris	Andenken an Ludwig Spath	S VII
vulgaris	Aucubaefolia	D III
vulgaris	Belle de Nancy	D V
vulgaris	Blue Skies	D III/VII
vulgaris	Charles Joly	D VII
vulgaris	Edward J. Gardner	D V
vulgaris	Emile Lemoine	D IV
vulgaris	Erzherzog Johann	S IV
vulgaris	Firmament	S III
vulgaris	Furst Buelow	S VII
vulgaris	General Pershing	D V
vulgaris	Henry Wadsworth Longfellow	D VI
vulgaris	Jugendtraum	S II
vulgaris	Katherine Havemeyer	D V
vulgaris	Konigin Luise	S I
vulgaris	Krasavitsa Moskvyy	D I
vulgaris	Lilarosa	S V
vulgaris	Lucie Baltet	S V
vulgaris	Marie Legraye	S I
vulgaris	Marlyensis	S IV
vulgaris	Michel Buchner	D IV
vulgaris	Mme. Florent Stepman	S I

## Annual Report of the Descanso Lilacs for 2002

### *Post-Convention Year - by Rudy Schaffer*

It is with a great deal of pleasure that we look back to last year's glory of our lilacs at their best in many years. Right at the end of the blooming season we went in with lots of ambition and strong arms to give the lilacs a good slenderizing. This was especially true of the older plants. The newer cultivars planted in 1997/98 are now at their best. The root systems are well established and we have to make sure, that they are not invading the older growth and territory of the Descanso varieties. Certainly it has come to the attention of the ILS members that our plants are planted very close to each other, three to four feet apart. We were aware of that, but it gives us the opportunity over the next years to eliminate plants which are not compatible with our planned setup, to eventually select the one hundred best varieties for our garden.

As for right now the Descanso hyacinthifloras are pushing due to the dry and warm winter so far, indicating an early blooming. We had a considerable percentage of premature flowers during the winter. However we now had some good rains in the last two weeks so we may catch up with lost liquid revenue.

My weather prediction that this was going to be another dry season did not hold water and the volunteers are taking me up on a free lunch in their favor. Since mother nature sides with them I am ending up paying for it. Indeed it is worth every drop of rain.

Jewel, Excel, and the Descanso Chiffon are competing with each other for being the first in bloom.

As for established annual date for the lilac seminar and birthday cake for Lavender Lady we are right on track and the devoted volunteers are preparing for another glorious week end March 29 and 30. Joining the Descanso hybrids are Jewel, Excel, and a number of early vulgaries and oblates to add to our long blooming period, as well as a couple of prestonias specimens, James Macfarlane.

In closing, may you all have a glorious lilac season and a great summer.

## A New Lilac For a New Baby

By Frank Moro

Hello to all ILS members. Since our son Colby was born April 30, 2002 with Down Syndrome, Sara and I had pretty much pulled back from everything trying to let sink in the circumstances life dealt us.

After a long rest this winter and lots of family time, we have gained back strength and purpose in life. We feel our family ties with our children have grown and Colby has been a gem for a us. Time to rethink our values and time spent on things. I wanted to take a few minutes to thank those for calls and letters.

In June 2003 our convention will take place in a very special area of the province of Quebec in a setting that you can only get in Quebec. I encourage all members who have never taken in the beauty of Quebec to not miss this convention as it will be a real Quebecois reception. The meals will be gourmet, the area enchanting, the accommodations cozy and of course, the people exceptional. There will be great guest speakers from the province whom I have worked with and know personally. Sara and I and all the children will be there for the event also.

We will have plenty of Father Fiala books for sale, and CD ROMs, and we will be bringing up a new dwarf lilac we are introducing in honor of our son, Colby.

It is amongst the many new dwarf lilacs we have seeded a few years ago and we are naming it *Syringa* × '**Colby's Wishing Star**'. It is a cross by Select Plus Nursery. It is amongst the many new dwarves we are to release. This is a seedling offspring of *Syringa microphylla* and *Syringa meyeri*, 'Palibin.' The flowers are a medium pinkish lilac color. It is a dwarf reaching 3.5 to 4 feet in height. It is very fragrant and has some recurrent bloom in the late summer. The shrub is very compact and dense and naturally has a rounded shape. It is hardy from zones 3-9 USDA or 4-10 Canadian.

As our plan at our new farm is to construct a special park for handicapped children, all sales from this lilac will go exclusively to help the construction of the park which we will start this year in 2003. The park will be wheelchair accessible and will have a variety of games, and sensory experiences to learn about fragrances and textures. The park will be open to families with handicapped children only. We have realized in the last months how little there is for children with special needs. Select Plus will maintain this park at its expense in the future. We hope to have something special that families in the immediate area and all around can come and see, as well as our future world class lilac collection in the spring.

Anyone who purchases a Colby's Wishing Star will also get a special pin as well in reference to the release of the lilac. The price of a 4-inch pot is \$12.00US or \$18.00 CDN.

Seeing handicapped children in the past for us was something we could not have identified any idea what the parents must have gone through on a daily basis. Now we realize that these parents are super beings, and their children heroes to have the strength and courage to meet daily challenges.

## Lilacs in the Landscape – Part II

### Lilacs and Structured Gardens

Lilacs are plants of civilization. They have a cultivated look that goes well with structures of all kinds. Lilacs look at home in gardens with an evident plan, the type of garden which is characteristic of the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century ("Colonial gardens") in the U.S. These gardens, some of their typical structures and ways of using lilacs, were discussed in a previous article of this series.

Whether your intention is to have a historically correct look for an old New England house, or to make a garden of lilacs on a suburban lot with a contemporary house, flatter your lilacs by creating a structured garden within which to place them. This can be done by using fences, stone or brick walls, hedges, or a somewhat geometric layout of garden beds. You can even plant the lilacs in an open circle or an open square arrangement so they themselves provide the structure. Better yet, if you have a rose garden replete with structures such as trellises and walks, you could take out some of the roses and replace them with lilacs<sup>1</sup>.

Visit your local Home Depot or garden supply store for ideas on fences and stone walls<sup>2</sup>. There are now available solid blocks of concrete (called Belgian Blocks) which have been rounded at the corners and treated with a finish which is a fairly convincing imitation of stone. These blocks are inexpensive and their regular shape makes construction of low stone walls straightforward for anyone who has a strong back and knows how to use a string level. The result is quite pleasing, especially after weathering.

### Creating a Lilac Garden from a Lilac "Orchard"

Because planting lilacs in an evenly spaced grid on a lawn is a frequent practice among gardeners who have a large number of lilacs, this installment of the series will look at how to transform such an existing lilac "orchard" into a more interesting garden. If you don't already have such a lilac "orchard", please don't

plant one in order to create this garden. There are much more interesting ways to arrange your lilacs (and your garden). Suggestions for other garden arrangements will follow in this series.

Figure I is a plan for a garden made by transforming an "orchard" of nine lilacs which are now at least head high and were initially planted far enough apart that one can still comfortably walk between them. The illustrated plan assumes the lilacs were planted 15 – twenty feet apart, on more or less level ground, resulting in a square garden 55 feet on each side. This is a very minimum size chosen for illustration<sup>3</sup>, so if a larger lilac "orchard" exists, it would be desirable to expand the plan to about 90 feet on each side. With the 15 – 20 foot spacing, this will enclose 36 lilacs.

To transform the "orchard" into a garden, fences or stone/block walls are placed at the corners. This suggests enclosure and starts to define boundaries. Just short sections can be used so the cost and installation is not too high. These corner structures are connected in two ways – by large cement or fieldstone pavers (not smaller than 24" x 24") that are embedded in the grass on two sides, and by smaller and possibly thicker paving blocks or ashlar-cut stones set on top of a gravel bed which is cut out of the turf on the other two sides. The width of the gravel bed will depend on the blocks used and the corner sections used. If the corner sections are stone or block walls, the gravel should be the same width; if the corner sections are fences, the gravel strip can be narrower, but it should be wider than the blocks laid on top of it by at least 6" on each side of the blocks so the lawnmower wheels can run along the edge of the gravel without obstructions.

The large pavers embedded in turf are meant to be walked over, forming a way into and out of the garden on two sides. The smaller blocks or cut stones laid on gravel beds are used, together with the corner sections, to further suggest boundaries on the other two sides with minimum construction costs.

The design of the transformed garden is quite constrained by the placement of the existing lilacs. If one of the lilacs were replaced by a small terrace for sitting out, it would be both more useful and visually more pleasing. If you have a lilac "orchard" in which one lilac has died or is not flourishing, by all means include that in the enclosure and replace it with a terrace. If all your lilacs are flourishing, then you could chose one with large trunks and prune it high, making it a small shade tree for the terrace.

An important part of the design, and one not conveyed by the two dimensional illustrated plan, is the height of the corner sections. The length and height of the corner sections must be in proportion to the overall garden size – the larger the spacing between lilacs and the larger the number of lilacs within the garden, the longer the corner sections should be. If 9 lilacs spaced about 15 feet apart are enclosed (see Figure I), then each side of the corner sections should be 8



to 12 feet long, and if the corner section is a fence it should be 5 to 6 feet high. If 36 lilacs with the same spacing are enclosed, each side of the corner sections should be about 24 feet long, and if a fence is used, it should be 6 to 8 feet high. When laying out the garden, use stakes and string to define both the length and the height of the fence or wall you are proposing to build – your eye will tell you when the length and height look right. You may have to adjust the stakes and string several times until you have a height and length of corner section that you like.

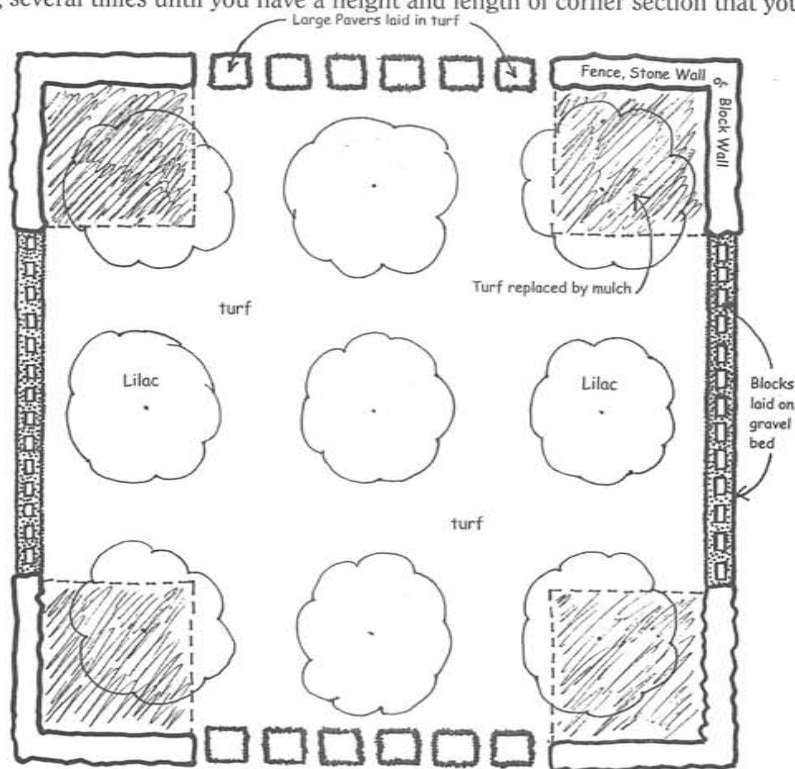


Figure 1. Transforming a Lilac "Orchard" into a Garden

You could also enhance the feeling of enclosure by backing, or replacing the gravel and block strips with hedges or flower borders on one or both of those sides (see Figure 2). In southern areas Boxwood would be a particularly suitable hedge and could be clipped to the height of the fence or stone wall at the corners. If the hedge or flower borders are taller than the corner sections (e.g. if the Boxwood is left unclipped or tall flowers are used in the borders), then they should extend beyond the opening in the gravel strip, behind the corner sections to their ends. A look at Figure 2 will tell you why. If you want a hedge of limited height, about 3 feet, that will never need pruning, try planting a row of the perennial *baptisia australis*<sup>4</sup>. It makes an excellent low hedge, with blue-green foliage, spikes of purple flowers in June, and interesting seedpods which persist, along with the dried foliage, to make an attractive hedge all winter.

It is possible to take the opportunity to plant more lilacs and extend the season by using the species lilac *S. josikea*, which makes an excellent hedge and blooms mid-June (peony time, to give you another low-maintenance suggestion) in the Boston area. Upton reports in his Vol. II & IV Scrapbook<sup>5</sup> that *S. josikea* is used to good effect in tall clipped hedges on an experimental farm in Ottawa. This would be especially attractive if stone or block walls are used for the corner sections.



Figure 2. Planting Between Corner Sections

Maintenance of this lilac garden will be only slightly more time-consuming than maintenance of the original "orchard". Because the lawn remains intact, the large pavers are embedded so the lawnmower is run right over them and the gravel beds with small blocks accommodate lawnmower wheels running down the edge of the gravel unimpeded, mowing time does not significantly increase. If you decide to include a hedge, of either shrubs or perennials such as *baptisia* there will be little additional maintenance if they are kept mulched. Of course, if you decide to use elaborate flower borders on one or both sides, those enhancements will require quite a bit of maintenance – although they will bring the rewards of variety and an extended season of interest.

<sup>1</sup> It is a continuing mystery why rose gardens are replete with expensive structures and lilacs are planted in a swath of lawn, usually spaced equidistant on a grid. Could it be that lilacs look beautiful anywhere and many roses need all the help they can get?

<sup>2</sup> You can also get ideas from garden catalogs and the Web, but you won't want to pay for shipping stones and fence sections so local suppliers are most useful.

<sup>3</sup> This size will feel quite small outdoors, and the lilacs will have to be kept well pruned.

<sup>4</sup> *Baptisia* (wild indigo or false indigo) will take 4 seasons to reach maturity from seed; 3 seasons if you purchase it from a nursery or by mail order as a small plant. Larger plants (1 gallon size and above) should mature in 2 seasons. A white variety is available, but not suggested for hedges as it's less vigorous. A promising yellow-flowered variety is being tested at Tower Hill Botanical Garden, and may also prove suitable.

<sup>5</sup> Upton Scrapbooks, Vol. II & IV, pp. 66. Reprinted by, and available from, the International Lilac Society.

## Brocéliande Gardens

**400 Lilacs in a Forest Setting** - *forwarded by Colin Chapman*

A collection of four hundred Lilacs has been planted in the Jardins de Brocéliande, a 24-hectare park in the Brittany region of France – Brocéliande being the immense forest to be found in Celtic legends.

These gardens are original from two points of view. First, they were created in order to show what handicapped workers were capable of doing. These workers maintain the park as a whole and receive visitors.

Secondly, a great number of interests are represented here. There are many aspects to the gardens and the aim has been to preserve wild areas (sunken roads, pools and ponds, streams, rivers, hedgerows...) and create landscaped areas with the use of rocks and scrap, small themed gardens and an orchard in which old and originally-shaped varieties of fruit are grown. All this is set in a décor of some twenty collections, including the national repository of French Irises.

The reception area, exhibition rooms and restaurant are housed in farm buildings dating back to 1900. Old races of animals and poultry live there in peace and can be approached by visitors.

The park itself was opened in 1997 and, on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2004, a new section will be inaugurated: the Lilac Forest.

Our lilac venture began when Mr. Jean-François Hervé, a globetrotter with such a passion for Lilacs that he scoured the world in search of them, acquiring a wide-ranging knowledge of them through his travels and the people he met, dreamt of taking part in the creation of a major collection somewhere in France – and why not in his own region, Brittany? So he contacted us and the project soon took shape.

Over the last five years, little by little, with the help of people throughout the world, Mr. Hervé's favourite Lilacs have been collected together in our nursery. Our enthusiastic partner horticulturists such as Ole Heide in Denmark, Konrad Kircher in Germany and Franck Moro in Quebec, as well those in the French gardens of School of Barevil to Paris, have obtained a large number of varieties for us.

Botanical gardens too have played their role by sending us seedlings or scions. Mention should be made of the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton (Canada) in the person of Bruce Peart, to whom we owe our thanks for sending us scions in 2002 and 2003, the Holden Arboretum (Mr. David Gressley) and Monroe County (Mr. Kent Milham) in Rochester, United States, the Aalsmeer Botanical

Garden (Cees van Dam) in the Netherlands, the Royal Botanical Garden in ONTARIO, and also the Arnold Arboretum (Jack Alexander).

Nor should we forget all the others who have shown their interest, including Mr. Colin Chapman (Great Britain), European representative of the International Lilac Society, Mr. Max Peterson in the United States, Xinlu Chen in China and Mr. Bigot in France. As our collection now consisted of some four hundred varieties, it was high time to find a place for it in the park where visitors could delight in the multitude of colours and scents.

So the Lilac Forest was created. On a hectare of valleys and lawns are mingled hybrid Lilacs that recall the legends of Brocéliande, of the Round Table and of Merlin the Magician.

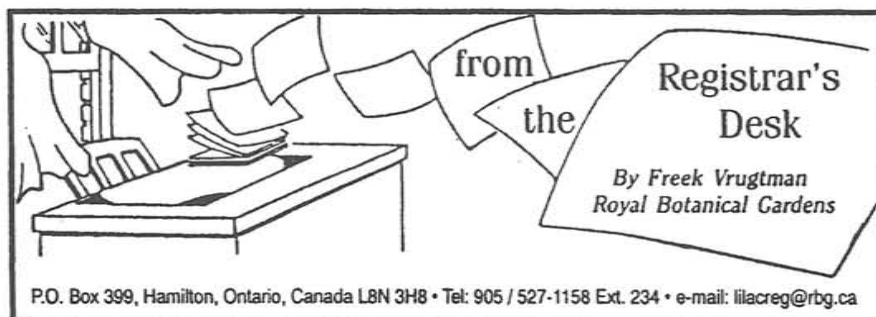
The botanical varieties are spread along one of the terraces overlooking our national repository of French Irises. There are fifty specimens, consisting of standard species and closely-related forms. Mention may be made of *Syringa yunnanensis*, *komarowii*, *oblata* or *meyeri* Dwarf Arnold.

Within the Lilac Forest almost 250 hybrids of *vulgaris* can be seen, arranged in alphabetical order, then just opposite them those so dear to Mr. Lemoine: the 29 *hyacinthiflora* hybrids. The *prestoniae* hybrids are also well represented with 36 varieties. Then too there are the *josiflexa* hybrids (4 varieties), those of *chinensis* (8 varieties) and the interspecific hybrids, with varieties such as 'Dancing Druid' or 'Rutilant'.

This collection will soon become a delightful place for a walk in the first beautiful days of May – just before the Irises.

We look forward to seeing you here in May 2004.

Virginie FUR, Lilacs' Collector  
Gerard Briere, Creator-Manager  
Route de Montfort, 35310 Breal-Sous, Montfort



**MIKOLAJ KARPOW-LIPSKI [1896-1981] - A POLISH HYBRIDIZER OF DISTINCTION**  
 (Fiala, *Lilacs - the genus Syringa*, p.214 [1988]; revised and updated by Freek Vrughtman)

Mikolaj Karpow-Lipski was born in Warsaw on 12 October, 1896, the son of a railroad employee. In 1910, at age fourteen, Mikolaj enrolled in a three-year horticultural school in Warsaw, graduating in 1913. In the autumn of the same year he entered the agricultural and horticultural college at Humán, in Belorussia (the present Republic of Belarus), the most prestigious horticultural college of the Russian Empire of that era.

At the outbreak of World War I Karpow-Lipski was drafted into the Imperial Army. Overtaken by the Russian Revolution in 1917 he served in the so-called East-Corps, fighting the Leninist forces. Sent to Greece with an East-Corps unit he travelled through Western Europe, including Italy, France and Great Britain. Having already a budding interest in plant breeding, he acquainted himself with the famous tree nurseries of Vilmorin Andrieux in Paris and V. Lemoine & fils in Nancy.

Following the end of WW I Karpow-Lipski returned to a now independent Poland and found employment in horticulture. He joined the Warsaw horticultural society and kept up to date with the literature on horticulture and plant breeding, including writings in Russian and French. In 1928 he started his own breeding and selecting work soon after which he purchased a 4.5 ha (11¼ acre) farm in Konczewice, near Torun. His initial breeding work was with pears; subsequently he branched out to breeding vegetables and herbaceous ornamental plants.

The events of WW II forced him to flee Konczewice and to work in the region known today as West Ukraine. Some of his work was with medicinal plants including selection work on castor bean (*Ricinus communis* L.).

After the end of WW II Karpow-Lipski returned to his farm. Many original stock plants, hybrids and selections resulting from his earlier efforts had been destroyed, but a collection of some 80 lilac cultivars acquired from Pépinières V. Lemoine & fils had survived. He started anew, concentrating as in earlier years on

tree fruits, vegetable crops such as rhubarb and tomatoes, and herbaceous perennials including gladiolus and peonies. Karpow-Lipski began breeding lilacs in 1947, using as breeding stock primarily *Syringa vulgaris* L. 'Capitaine Baltet', 'Michel Buchner', 'Mme Lemoine', 'Maréchal Foch', 'Massena', 'Président Pointcaré' and 'Victor Lemoine'. From the progeny of ca 1,600 seedlings he selected and named more than 40 new cultivars.

Prof. Dr Wladyslaw Bugala, formerly director of the Institute of Dendrology and the Kornik Arboretum of the Polish Academy of Sciences, and a successful lilac breeder himself, considers 'Chmurka', 'Kardynal' and 'Stefan Makowicki' to be the best of the Mikolaj Karpow-Lipski introductions.

Although this type of record is never up to date, of the 32 known named Karpow-Lipski cultivars only 12 appear to be grown in North America. At the time of writing ten names appear on inventory lists of lilac collections (coll.); four names appear in commercial price lists (comm.). We are not aware of any comparative evaluations of these cultivars.

'Biala Anna' (coll. & comm.)	'Bogdan Przyrzykowski' (coll. & comm.)
'Dr. W. Bugala' (coll.)	'Fale Baltyku' (coll.)
'Fryderyk Chopin' (coll.)	'Kapitan Teliga' (coll.)
'Kardynal' (comm.)	'Konstanty Karpow' (coll.)
'Pomorzanka' (comm.)	'Prof. Edmund Jankowski' (coll.)
'Prof. Józef Brzezinski' (coll.)	'Stefan Makowiecki' (coll.)

#### Acknowledgement:

For the biographic information we are indebted to Prof. Dr Eugeniusz Bilski, formerly director of the Research Center for Varieties of Agricultural Crops (COBO) at Slupia Wielka; and Prof. Dr Wladyslaw Bugala (see above), Poland.

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### **Mikołaj Karpow-Lipski lilac originations:**

*Syringa vulgaris* L.

**'Adam Mickiewicz'**, Karpow Lipski 1958; D IV

syn. - 'KL 34', 'Siewka nr 23'

Karpow-Lipski, *Arboretum Kórnickie*, 3:105 [1958]; Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 31(3):125 [1971]; Anon., *Lista odmian roślin ozdobnych* 1971, 17 & 1973, 25 - syn: 'KL 34', as II.

Named for Adam Mickiewicz [1798-1855], national poet of Poles and Lithuanians.

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'A. Eizyk'**, Karpow Lipski; D V

syn. - 'Siewka nr 150'

Karpow-Lipski, *Arboretum Kórnickie*, 3:107 [1958].

Named for Aron Eizyk, nurseryman and grower of roses in Kutno, central Poland, 1930s to 1950s.

Cultivar name established and accepted.

**'Anna Karpow'**, Karpow Lipski 1958; D I

syn. - 'Siewka nr 84'

Karpow-Lipski, *Arboretum Kórnickie* 3:105 [1958]; Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 31(3):125 [1971].

Named for the mother (or grandmother?) of the originator.

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Biała Anna'**, Karpow Lipski 1971; S I

syn 'Biały Hiacyntowy', 'KL 21'

Anon., Lista odmian roślin ozdobnych 1971, 17 & 1973, 25.

Probably also named in honour of Anna Karpow (translation: White Anna).

Cultivar name registered PLPBR 1971; cultivar name established and accepted.

**'Bogdan Przrzyskowski'**, Karpow Lipski 1961; D VI

Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 31(3):125 [1971].

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Chmurka'**, Karpow Lipski ca. 1971; S VI

{'Maréchal Foch' × ? }

syn - 'Zhmurka'

Anon., Lista odmian roślin ozdobnych 1971, 17 name only; Lista ... 1973, p.25; Lista ... 1980, 150; Anon., Lilak Pospolity - COBO Informator 8/78 1976; Pikaleva, Lilacs - Quart. Jour. 23(4):89 [1994] - erroneously as 'Zhmurka'.

Chmurka is Polish for "little cloud".

Cultivar name registered PLPBR 1971; cultivar name established and accepted.

**'Dr. W. Bugala'**, Karpow Lipski 1962; S V

syn 'Dr. Bugala'

Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 31(3):125 [1971]

Named for Władysław Bugala, Polish horticulturist and hybridizer, director of Kórnik Arboretum and Institute for Dendrology [1980-1995].

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Fale Baltyku'**, Karpow Lipski 1961; S III

syn - 'Fale Baltyku', 'Fall Baltyku'

Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 31(3):125 [1971] - erroneously as D III.

Polish for "wave of the Baltic Sea".

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Fryderyk Chopin'**, Karpow Lipski 1958; S VI

Karpow-Lipski, Arboretum Kórnickie, 3:104 [1958].

Named for Frédéric Chopin [1810-1849], Polish composer and pianist.

Cultivar name established and accepted.

**'Halina Golabska'**, Karpow Lipski; ? I

syn - 'KL 18'

Anon., Lista odmian roślin ozdobnych 1971, 17; Lista ... 1973, 25 - in Polish.

Named (probably) for the daughter of the originator.

Cultivar name registered PLPBR 1971; cultivar name established and accepted.



**'Irena Karpow Lipska'**, Karpow Lipski 1958; D IV

syn - 'KL 24'

{'Michel Buchner' x ? }

Karpow-Lipski, Arboretum Kórnickie 3:104 105 [1958]; Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 31(3):125 [1971]; Anon., *Lista odmian rolin ozdobnych* 1973, p. 25 - in Polish; Anon., *Lilak Pospolity - COBO Informator* 8/78 [1976].

Named for the second wife of the originator.

Cultivar name registered 1970; cultivar name registered PLPBR 1971; name established and accepted.

**'Jutrzenka Pomorza'**, Karpow Lipski 1961; S V

syn - 'Jutrzezenka Parmorza'

Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 31(3):125 [1971].

Polish for "morning star of Pomerania".

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'J. Wolowicki'**, Karpow Lipski 1958; D V

syn. - 'Siewka nr 3'

Karpow-Lipski, Arboretum Kórnickie 3:104 [1958].

Cultivar name established and accepted.

**'Kapitan Teliga'**, Karpow Lipski 1973; S VII II

syn 'KL 28', 'Miko\_aj Kopernik'

{'Masséna' x ? }

Anon., *Lista odmian roslin ozdobnych* 1971, 17; *Lista . . .* 1973, 25; *Lista . . .* 1980, 152 in Polish; Anon., *Lilak Pospolity - COBO Informator* 8/78 [1976].

Named for Leonid Teliga [1917-1970], Poland, who singlehandedly circumnavigated the earth in 1967-69 on his 34 foot yawl *Opty*.

Cultivar name registered PLPBR 1971; cultivar name established and accepted.

**'Kardynal'**, Karpow Lipski 1986; S VII II

syn. 'Cardinal', 'Kardinal', *Kardynal*

Anon., *Lista odmian rolin ozdobnych* 1986, 59 - as 'Cardinal'; *Lista . . .* 1987, 57 - as S I; *Fiala, Lilacs*, 214 - erroneously as D VI [1988]; *Vrughtman, HortScience* 24(3):435 [1989].

Cultivar name established and accepted.

**'Kobierski'**, Karpow Lipski; D IV

Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 13(3):125 [1971].

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Konstanty Karpow'**, Karpow Lipski 1953; S V

syn. - 'Siewka nr 95'

Karpow-Lipski, Arboretum Kórnickie 3:102 [1958]; Wister & Oppe, Arnoldia 31(3):126 [1971] - erroneously as D V; Fiala, Lilacs, 101, 214 [1988] - as D; Vrugtman, HortScience 24(3):435-436 [1989].

Named for the father (or grandfather?) of the originator.

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Ks. Bonifacy Jundzill'**, Karpow Lipski; S IV

syn. - 'Siewka nr 161'

Karpow-Lipski, Arboretum Kórnickie, 3:104 [1958].

Named for Father Bonifacy Jundzill [1761-1847], Polish priest and botanist at the University of Wilno (now Vilnius, Lithuania).

Cultivar name established and accepted.

**'Leon Wyczółkowski'**, Karpow Lipski; S VI

syn. - 'Leon Wyczolkowski', 'Siewka nr 35'

Karpow-Lipski, Arboretum Kórnickie, 3:102 [1958]; Wister & Oppe, Arnoldia 31(3):126 [1971] - as 'Leon Wyczolkowski'.

Named for Leon Wyczółkowski [1852-1936], Polish painter and graphic artist.

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Mikolaj Karpow Lipski'**, Karpow Lipski 1958; S III

{'Masséna' x ? }

syn. - 'Siewka nr 16'

Karpow-Lipski, Arboretum Kórnickie 3:102 [1958]; Anon., Lista odmian rolin ozdobnych 1973, 25.

Named for Mikołaj Karpow Lipski [1896-1981], Polish horticulturist and plant breeder.

Cultivar name registered PLPBR 1973; cultivar name established and accepted.

**'Minister Dab Kociol'**, Karpow Lipski 1961; S III

Wister & Oppe, Arnoldia 31(3):126 [1971]; Fiala, Lilacs, 97, 214 [1988].

Named for Stanisław Dab-Kociol, Polish minister of agriculture in the 1950s.

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Niewinnose'**, Karpow Lipski 1960; D V

Wister & Oppe, Arnoldia 31(3):126 [1971].

Polish for "innocence".

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Panna Dorota Golabecka'**, Karpow Lipski 1952; D I

Wister & Oppe, Arnoldia 31(3):126 [1971].

Named for Miss Dorota Golabecka, probably friend or relative of the originator.

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Piotr Chosinski'**, Karpow Lipski 1960; D VI

Wister & Oppe, Arnoldia 31(3):126 [1971].

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Pomorzanka'**, Karpow Lipski 1962; S V

Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 31(3):126 [1971].

Polish for "Pomeranian young lady".

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Prof. Bialobok'**, Karpow Lipski 1961; D V

syn. - Prof. Bialobok

Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 31(3):126 [1971] - as 'Prof Bialobok'.

Named for Prof. Stefan Bia\_obok [1909-1992], director [1945-1980] of the Institute for Dendrology, Kórnik, Poland.

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Prof. Edmund Jankowski'**, Karpow Lipski 1958; S III

syn - 'Professor Edmund Jankowski', 'Siewka nr 6'

Karpow-Lipski, *Arboretum Kórnickie* 3:102 [1958]; Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 31(3):126 [1971].

Named for Edmund Jankowski [1849-1938], professor of horticulture at the Agricultural College of Warsaw, Poland.

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Prof. Józef Brzezinski'**, Karpow Lipski 1938; D V

syn 'Profesor Józef Brzezinski', 'Professor Josef Brzezinski', 'Prof. Josef Brzezinski', Prof. Joseph Brzezinski', 'Siewka nr 146'

Karpow-Lipski, *Arboretum Kórnickie* 3:105, 108 [1958]; Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 31(3):126 [1971] - as 'Prof. Josef Brzezinski'.

Named for Józef Brzezi\_ski [1862-1939], professor of horticulture and botany, Jagiellone University, Cracow, Poland.

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Prof. Roman Kobendza'**, Karpow Lipski 1958; D IV

syn 'Siewka nr 18'

Karpow-Lipski, *Arboretum Kórnickie* 3:108 [1958]; Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 31(3):126 [1971].

Named for Roman Kobendza [1886-1955], professor of dendrology, Agricultural College, Warsaw, Poland.

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Rozana Mlodose'**, Karpow Lipski 1960; S V

syn - 'Rozana Mlodosc'

Wister & Oppe, *Arnoldia* 31(3):126 [1971] - as 'Rozana Mlodosc'.

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

**'Stanislaw Moniuszko'**, Karpow Lipski 1971; S II VI

{‘Mikolaj Karpow-Lipski’ x ? }

Anon., Lista odmian roslin ozdobnych 1971, 17; Lista...1973, 25; Lista .  
.. 1980, 153 - in Polish; Lilak Pospolity - COBO Informator 8/78 [1976].  
Named for Stanisław Moniuszko [1819-1872], Polish composer.  
Cultivar name registered PLPBR 1971; cultivar name established and  
accepted.

‘**Stefan Makowiecki**’, Karpow Lipski 1958; S VI-VII

syn. - ‘Siewka nr 145’

Karpow-Lipski, Arboretum Kórnickie 3:104 [1958]; Wister & Oppe,  
Arnoldia 31(3):126 [1971] - as S VI; Anon., Lista odmian roslin ozdobnych  
1971, 17 & Lista...1973, 25.

Named for Stefan Makowiecki [1860-1949], Polish horticulturist,  
dendrologist and author.

Cultivar name registered 1970; cultivar name registered PLPBR 1971;  
name established and accepted.

‘**Tadeusz Kosciuszko**’, Karpow Lipski 1958; D IV

syn ‘Siewka nr 14’, ‘Tadeiszko’

Karpow-Lipski, Arboretum Kórnickie 3:105, 108 (1958); Wister & Oppe,  
Arnoldia 31(3):126 (1971) erroneously as ‘Tadeiszko’, D VI; Vrugtman,  
HortScience 25(6):618 [1990].

Named for Tadeusz Andrezej Bonawentura Ko\_ciuszko [1746-1817],  
Polish soldier, patriot and national hero.

Cultivar name registered 1970; name established and accepted.

---

### Abbreviations

S - Single flowers

D - Double flowers

### Colours

I White

V Pinkish

II Violet

VI Magenta

III Bluish

VII Purple

IV Lilac

& bicour [e.g. VII & I for purple and white]

/ - colour combinations [e.g. III/VII for bluish-purple; V-VI for pinkish to magenta]

\* cultivar with variegated and/or golden foliage

? information incomplete

Cultivar names appearing in **bold type** have been registered.

## Do Your Clothes Smell Lilac Fresh?

Dr. Douglas Routley  
Plant Science Department  
University of New Hampshire

### **EDITOR'S NOTE:**

*The fall issue of Lilacs (Vol. 31, No. 4) carried an article on flower fragrance with a mention of lilacs. This reminded your Editor that we had published an article specifically on lilac fragrance in the Lilac Newsletter Vol. XI, No 5, May, 1985 entitled "Do Your Clothes Smell Lilac Fresh" so we have reprinted it here.*

Flower fragrances have been appreciated by humans from the very earliest of times. Long used in perfumes and other cosmetics by women, they are increasingly used today in men's toiletries, cleaning agents, air fresheners, and sometimes even in the mail.

Most plants with fragrant flowers have yielded their essences to the perfume chemist. Some of the most commonly used are the oils of rose, jasmine, lavender, orange blossom, heliotrope, and gardenia. But some flowers don't readily give up their essence, even though they strongly perfume our gardens. One of them is the lilac.

Several methods can be used to remove odoriferous principles from flowers, including steam distillation, extraction in cold fat (a very ancient method called enfleurage), and a more recent method using organic solvents. While some of these methods have been used to obtain a concentrated essence, called an absolute, from lilac flowers, its odor lacks all the characteristics of the fresh flower.

According to Dr. Robert J. Steltenkamp, writing in the journal *Perfumer & Flavorist*, only a few natural lilac products have been obtained from *S. vulgaris* using low temperature solvent extraction. Any use of heat destroys the scent.

Within the past decade, Japanese chemists have analyzed extracts of lilac blossoms to determine what makes up their unique fragrance. The major odorous components, constituting seventy percent of the extracted oil, are four complex alcohols known as the lilac alcohols. According to Steltenkamp, these alcohols are described as having "an exquisite floral fragrance." As many as thirty other components were identified in the lilac oil but in considerably smaller amounts.

While the four major lilac alcohols have been synthesized chemically, the procedure is complex and the starting material expensive, thus ruling out their commercial use.

Nevertheless, an imitation lilac fragrance has been available for the last fifty years, made up of a combination of seven natural and synthetic fragrances. The two major components, alpha-terpineol and hydroxycitronellal, are the most useful chemicals for imitating the real lilac fragrances even though neither is found in the lilac flower. Alpha-terpineol is found in several flower oils, including geranium, magnolia, and gardenia but is most abundant in turpentine, from which it is prepared on a large scale. It comes closest to the true character of lilac and is especially useful when the lilac fragrance is to be used in soaps and detergents because of its stability under alkaline conditions. Hydroxycitronellal, noted for its sweet rose-like odor, is obtained from certain grasses grown in Java and the Phillipines. It is more expensive than terpineol and can't be used in cleaning agents because it is destroyed by alkali. In that case, several substitutes may be used.

To the traditional lilac base are generally added a wide variety of aromatic chemical and natural essences. In fact, says Stelenkamp, "The uniqueness in lilac composition arises in part from the use of the accessory or special effect notes." Some of the natural oils used include ylang-ylang, jasmine, rose, lemon oil, verbena oil, or whatever else the perfumer's imagination dictates.

Many companies have devised their own lilac specialties for perfumery application. Lilac by itself, however, is seldom used for personal fragrances because it is less delicate than lily of the valley and not as recognizable as rose. Oddly, the one formulation considered to be closest to the classic lilac type is named Apple Blossom and it has been used in several perfumes, including Arpege by Lanvin.

Actually, the lilac fragrance is used much more in other consumer products. It is the dominant scent in detergents such as Super Suds, Persil, and Tide; in toiletries such as Tegrin Shampoo, Barber's Shaving Soap and Pinaud Lilac Vegetal Shaving Cream; and in Wizard and Florient air fresheners.

While few consumers may be able to say with any confidence that a particular product smells exactly like lilac blossoms, the imitation lilac essence may very well be there. But it is primarily a building block upon which each company builds something distinctive for a particular product. You might rather call it a floral scent, not exactly lilac, and certainly not the real thing in your garden on a sunny spring day.

## Future Convention Highlights

**2004 NEBRASKA, USA:** Thursday, May 6, 2004 – Sunday, May 9, 2004  
Lilacs, historical sites, meetings, lodging and some outstanding gardens and special attractions await ILS for this once-in-a-lifetime event. Most activities will center around Nebraska City, home of Arbor Day. The next several journals will give more details.

**2005 WOODLAND, WASHINGTON & PORTLAND, OREGON:** This site is still in the early stages of planning and final approval has not been made, but it is expected. Should the convention be here it would center around the Hulga Klager Lilac Gardens, lilac and tulip farms. Portland area gardens and perhaps Mount St. Helen's National Park, where you can witness the massive destruction and regrowth of plant material caused by a volcanic eruption. More details will follow.

**2006 AND FOLLOWING:** Sites being considered: Swarthmore, PA: Eureka, Illinois. Eureka will hold their first LILAC FESTIVAL this year on May 2-3, 2003. It will feature several hundred lilacs planted fifty years ago through the present time. Contact Darrel Punke: [dpunke@eureka.edu](mailto:dpunke@eureka.edu) or the city of Eureka at 309-467-6123 for further information.

Other areas may be: Ottawa, Canada; Spokane, Washington; Boston, MA; Oklahoma, USA; and the mid-west USA. Also Brighton, London, United Kingdom, area could be considered for a future tour / meeting as I have received interesting material that could warrant a fine visit to see mature lilac plantings and spectacular flower gardens. Additional trips to Paris area lilac collections and Norman's Farm lilac collection in Suffolk, England could be seen as well during an England trip.

All ILS members are welcome to submit any information and suggestions they may have regarding future sites. Let us know how you feel about attending conventions in the above areas. Contact Bob Hoepfl or Peter Ely of the Convention Committee.

## Lilac Festivals

**Editor's Note:** Among the list of Lilac Open House programs you can add these from Syringa Plus and Linda Blackman. Notice there are two blocks of time, and that Syringa Plus will be at the Lilac Festival at the Governor's Mansion in Portsmouth NH on Sunday, May 18.

**Syringa Plus Open House:** May 10-11 (Mother's Day Weekend) 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

May 24-26 (Memorial Day Weekend), 10:00 am - 3:00 pm. We will have over 100 different Lilac cultivars in bloom, including many Berdeen Lilacs. The open house will also feature propagation demonstrations. BRING YOUR CAMERA AND LET'S TALK LILACS.

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**Robson Valley British Columbia, Canada:** Bonnie Culp and Linda Blackman, members of the ILS, invite you to view their private collections. The Culp Farm at Dunster, BC has an extensive lilac collection surrounded by pastoral fields of grazing sheep and cattle. The Blackman's Secret Garden, Tete Jaune Cache, BC is a deep forest garden on the banks of the beautiful Frazer River. Enjoy the garden and afternoon tea in a heritage cabin overlooking the Frazer River and Canadian Rocky Mountains. The two gardens have 100+ cultivars and species. Approximate bloom time and Lilac Walk will be on June 14, 2003. Call for directions and dates. Bonnie: 250-968-4309. Linda: 250-566-9194. E-mail: [Blackman@vis.bc.ca](mailto:Blackman@vis.bc.ca)  
This will be the third year that we have held the event. We live in the beautiful Robson Valley in central BC just minutes from Mt. Robson, the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies. The population here is very small, but we are gaining an interested group of people at our annual Lilac Walk and Tea.



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