

Lilacs

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IN
THIS
ISSUE:

Welcome
New Members

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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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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings lilac lovers; as another year draws to a close let us put our lilac beds to rest and hope for a great spring bloom.

Here along the southern shore of Lake Ontario the season has been unique weather wise. July was hot and dry while August saw twice the normal amount of rainfall. Hopefully this will not inhibit bud production for next year. As we all know, Lilacs set up their flower buds during August and September for bloom the following spring, and warm dry conditions enhance bud production.

Commercial membership dues have been raised to \$50.00 US effective January, 2004. The additional cost will provide these members with a listing on the ILS web site.

The Executive committee has decided to eliminate the Canadian Treasury. Therefore, effective January, 2004 Canadian memberships both new and renewals will be due in US currency. These funds should be submitted directly to the Assistant Treasurer, Bill Tschumi. I hope this doesn't inconvenience our northern neighbors. I remind you dues are acceptable on Visa or Mastercard.

The Awards committee is interested in your input. Please alert us to individuals, clubs, gardens, nurseries or others that have made contributions to ILS or Lilacs in general. Submit your suggestions to Amy Plamann, Marcia Hoepfl or myself.

Enjoy the season and all seasons for what they're worth, for without the four seasons we wouldn't have spring. And LILACS.

REMEMBERING LOUIS ERICKSON

By Elwyn Erickson (Son)

Note: Portions taken from the August 23rd, 2003 article of the Press-Enterprise written by Gail Wesson.

Dr. Louis C. Erickson, an avid participant in the ILS for nearly three decades, died at his Riverside, California, home August 18th, 2003. He was 89.

He was director of the University of California, Riverside Botanic Gardens. As garden Director from 1973 to 1981, he is credited with making the almost 40-acre campus site a highly visible attraction for specialty-plant enthusiasts and the community at large. His efforts increased teaching and research use and university financial support for the garden. With community leaders, he helped create the Friends of the UCR Botanic Gardens in 1980. He advised his successor, botany professor Dr. Giles Wainess, on administrative matters, attended meetings and hiked the garden paths until a fall resulted in a broken hip in 2001.



Dr. Erickson was a former California regional vice president of the International Lilac Society and was "one of the few people who could walk up to a plant and tell you the registered name of it," said longtime friend Reva Ballreich. Using his research background, Dr. Erickson cross-pollinated lilacs in an effort to develop "low-chill" dwarf lilac shrubs that would bloom in milder winter areas such as Southern California.

His interest in plants bloomed early. In 1928 at the age of fourteen years, he began participating in local and regional agricultural fair competitions to identify plants. In 1931, as the team captain at Phineas Banning High School, the team won the plant identification contest at the Southern California Fair held in Riverside.

He was a member of the botany club at Compton Junior College. He earned a Liberal Arts degree at this Southern California junior college in 1933. He earned a bachelor's degree in 1935, and a master's degree in 1939 from UCLA, both in botany. A Ph. D. in botany was completed in 1946 at University of California, Berkeley.

During World War II, he worked on the U. S. Department of Agriculture's emergency rubber project. The Guayule Project was to extract rubber from the guayule plant (shrub, *Parthenium argentatum*) for use in the defense industry. This work was conducted in San Clemente and Salinas, California.

An average of two research papers per year were published on citrus and avocados. This research assisted the California growers of citrus and avocados. It began at the Citrus Experiment Station, which later became the University of California, Riverside campus site in 1948. He taught morphology of vascular plants at UCR until he retired as a professor in 1977.

He and his wife of 55 years, Elizabeth, were active participants in the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta yearly meetings. This provided them the opportunity to travel as well as to get ideas from garden associates by attending the national and regional meetings from 1973 through 1990. His hobby away from work was growing orchids in a backyard greenhouse.

EDITOR'S NOTES

By popular demand we are including a list of the 2003 convention attendees near the end of this issue.

Our next issue will be the Winter issue, so check your membership information in the membership list. Also, do you know of a festival or open house? Now is the time to get the information into print.

We are grateful to Konrad Kircher for his contribution of labels for each of the plants in the auction at the 2003 convention.

COVERS

Front Cover: *Syringa vulgaris* 'Masséna'. Photo credit Colin Chapman - see the European Newsletter. He describes 'Masséna' as "Pom-poms in the sky".

Back Cover: Lilacs at Arbor Lodge Nebraska City site of 2004 convention. Photo Credit Jan Fricke

Typos: The caption on the photographer should have read "William HORMAN" and our new Pacific Region Vice President is "Elizabeth Kilcoyne".

There was also a mistake in the list of dues for joining. The annual membership is now \$20.00, not \$15.00 as noted on page 136 of the summer issue.

NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE

December 8 will be the deadline for the Membership (Winter) Issue. Be sure to check that your information is correct.

The winter issue will have all the 2004 convention information. Be sure to check the up-dated advanced information in this issue.

In reply to a number of requests, we have included an order sheet for the Royal Horticulture Colour Chart.

The New RHS Colour Chart was published in May, 2001. An expanded edition of this standard reference for colour identification - an indispensable aid for anyone who values accuracy in the identification of colours. The 884 colours are arranged in four easy-to-use fans in a boxed set with full instructions in six languages.

The cost is £135 plus postage.

UK postage - £3.95.

Europe and Worldwide - £9.95

Payment can be either by cheque (pounds sterling) payable to RHSE Ltd. or by credit card. Goods are dispatched on receipt of payment.

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We look forward to receiving your order.

2004 CONVENTION INFORMATION

Nebraska City, Nebraska

by Jan Fricke for the 2004 Convention Committee

The site of the convention is the beautiful and historic river city, Nebraska City, situated 44 miles south of Omaha on the west bank of the Missouri River. Nebraska City is the home of J. Sterling Morton, the founder of Arbor Day, and the convention's activities will be centered at the Arbor Day Foundation's sizeable complex.

Visitors will tour the 300-plus lilacs situated on the grounds of the Arbor Lodge State Historical Park, the lilacs at the Lied Conference Center, the lilacs at the Omaha Botanical Gardens, and near Springfield, Nebraska, the lilac garden of an ILS member. In Omaha, we will visit the world's largest indoor rain forest and the amazing 13-story-high geodesic dome housing desert exhibits.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the beautiful Lied Lodge & Conference Center, the home base for convention activities. The Lied is a world-class lodge built in the classic Adirondack style and overlooks the apple orchards at Arbor Day Farm. To say it is a beautiful lodge is an understatement. The soaring timber lobby will take your breath away. It is truly an inspiring environment. Lied Lodge is situated not far from the J. Sterling Morton Mansion and is surrounded by inviting walkways through forested areas. The Lied has an indoor pool, workout room, and many other amenities.

The Convention Planning Committee is working hard to provide a wonderful experience for our visitors. We'll have full details and the registration information in the Winter and Spring Journal issues, including the information on lilac plants to be offered at the auction. Start planning now to come to Nebraska next May!

2004 CONVENTION TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Nebraska City, Nebraska, May 6, 7, 8

Thursday, May 6:

2:00 - 4:00	Directors Meeting - Hospitality Room
Noon - 10:00	Registration - Hospitality Room
6:00 - 7:00	Nebraska-style Country Supper at Historic Morton Barnes
7:00 - 8:00	Hayride/Shuttle Ride - Tour of area
8:00 - 10:00	Bonfire at Morton Oak

Friday, May 7:

7:30 - 8:30	Breakfast - Lied Conference Center Main Floor Dining room
8:00-11:30	Board shuttles and tour Arbor Lodge lilacs, Morton Mansion
11:30-12:00	Free Time - relax before Auction
12:00 - 1:00	ILS Lilac Plant Auction (open to the public)
5:30 - 7:00	Free Time - relax and dress for dinner
7:00 - 8:00	President's Dinner - Lied downstairs Dining Room
8:00 - 8:45	Meadowlark Hill Lilac Garden Slide Presentation by Max Peterson
9:00 - 10:00	Hospitality Room Gathering - Equipment will be available for sharing lilac slides, videos, photos

Saturday, May 8:

7:00 - 7:30	Directors Meeting - Hospitality Room
7:30 - 8:30	Breakfast - Lied Conference Center Main Floor Dining Room
8:30 - 9:15	Buses to Omaha
9:15 - 12:30	Tour Lied Jungle and Desert Dome at Henry Doorly Complex
12:30 - 12:45	Buses to Omaha Botanical Gardens
12:45 - 1:45	Lunch at Omaha Botanical Gardens
1:45 - 2:45	Tour lilacs at Omaha Botanical Gardens
2:45 - 3:30	Buses to ILS member Don Maxon's Gardens
3:30 - 4:00	Tour Don Maxon's Lilac Garden
4:00 - 4:30	Buses to Nebraska City
4:30 - 6:30	Free time - relax and dress for dinner
6:30 - 6:45	Board shuttles to Steinhart Park Pavilion for Awards Banquet
7:00 - 8:00	ILS Awards Banquet
8:00 - 9:30	Awards Presentation
9:30 - 9:45	Shuttles back to Lied Conference Center
10:00 - ?	Hospitality Room Social Gathering

Sunday, May 9 Breakfast on your own and departure

REVISED CONVENTION SITES

by Convention Committee
Peter Ely, Convention Chair

2004 **Nebraska, USA**

2005 **Boston MA / Arnold Arboretum** (definite)

2006 **Portland, Oregon / Hulda Klager Gardens, WA** (definite)

2007 An ILS convention is being considered for several sites in England. A committee is working on how this can be done, as this could be our first visit to Europe. Please send us your thoughts on this.

2008 **Cleveland, OH / Holden Arboretum** (this is being considered but is not definite yet.)

Please advise us of any sites you feel could be possible for future years. Thank you.

2003 CONVENTION PHOTOS



*Marcia Hoepfl,
Amy Plomann, and
Konrad Kircher*

photos by William Horman



*Peter Ely,
Owen Rogers, and
Robert Clark*



*Art for sale on the
banks of the St.
Lawrence.*

2003 CONVENTION PHOTOS



*Village
symbol*

*Left to right:
Bradley Bittorf,
Konrad Kircher,
John Corvill,
Margaret Walton,
and William
Tschumi.*

photos by William Horman

*Preparing for the auction. Several of the
Moro family on the right.*



EUROPEAN NEWSLETTER

by Colin Chapman

A very long period of searing heat has fried Europe and all who sail in her. This country experienced its first ever recorded temperature in excess of 100 degrees Fahrenheit and, in France, the magnificent Marie Antionette oak at Versailles, which was planted in the seventeenth century by Le Notre himself, is dead because it simply baked in the ambient super-heated air. Grass crumbles into dust with every tread. The thatched roof is tinder-dry and wilted leaves hang vertically from the lilacs. All efforts have been devoted to keeping the 2000 plus plants in containers alive, a need so desperate that Shelagh has had to help out even though she has spent the summer with a broken foot and can hardly stand. The new land is still bare and is still too dry to sow grass seed. Apart from that, the weather is fine and apart from all that, this would be an ideal time to be writing an article!

It has not all been bad. In May 1994 I wrote an article for the Royal Horticultural Society Journal *"The Garden"*. This was the most prestigious and influential thing I had done up to the full front page spread in the *Daily Telegraph* Garden Supplement in May of last year. Earlier this year I had a call from the RHS Journal editor to ask if I could do a follow-up article. When I agreed he arranged to send a photographic team to make a double page plate for that article. They came early in May and commandeered the garage and turned it into a studio. We had to select what was in flower and what was sufficiently unblemished to be photographed.

They mounted 18 cut flowers and prepared them for a portrait. Just before it was taken I was given a peep through the camera and then they flooded them with light. They leaped into life and looked sumptuous! I had to include old warhorses like 'Primrose' and 'Charles Joly' because they are commercially available but I also got in there the likes of 'Avalanche' and 'Wonderblue' from Fiala, 'Krasavitsa Moskv' because I could not be without it, and the two new flowerings of 'Nesterka' and 'Fantaziya'. The RHS Journal is for members so will not be on general sale but I will ask about extra copies and perhaps bring some to the convention. On top of this came my first appearance on TV. Fortunately, it was for a little garden show on the regional East Anglia network and it was buried in the depths of an afternoon. "Fortunate" because your boy acted totally out of character and was frozen by camera fright and came over with all the life and energy of a wooden zombie. The lilacs looked wonderful, however, and particularly one shot where I am shown in the same pose as Kolesnikov in the photo in Fr Fiala's *"Lilacs"* holding the self-same lilac, 'Mechta', that he is holding. This was not planned and, yes, I was thrilled. I will bring a video recording along with me also next year.

I was delighted to welcome Patrice Huet as a member some months ago and even more delighted to read in the last Journal that he is the great grandson of Mme. Abel Chatenay and about his and Konrad's efforts in commemorating her and Mons. Sauge of *S. xchinensis* 'Saugeana'. If my memory is true (and following my cracked head that cannot be taken for granted) Sauge was the son-in-law of Varin who discovered the chance seeding in the Botanical Garden in Rouen which became *S. xchinensis*. Thank you Patrice for two wonderful links with the past.

In that last edition Philip Williamson commented that no one ever seems to write about the villosa series of wild lilacs. I hold my hand up and plead guilty. We have been quietly assembling an ever-growing collection of these with several from recent plant hunting expeditions. In respect of *S. josikaea*, for instance, we must have as complete a collection as anyone around but they have not all flowered yet and I had intended writing about them in total and not individually. Speaking from the tip of my head (because my records went with it when the computer died) we have *josikaea*, *josikaea* var 'Eximia', *josikaea* 'Pallida', *josikaea* 'Râ', *josikaea* 'Holte', *josikaea* 'Baldishol' and four microvariants of *josikaea* found by Vasily Gorb wild in the Ukraine. I must have had a stirring of guilt because I did photograph one of these in late May as well as my own personal favourite *S. yunnanensis*. This latter I want to reserve for my book and my website (No! not yet but both are pending and you will be the first to know) so I will submit a picture of *S. josikaea* var 'Eximia'. This came with verification from Kew and shows the classical features of conical florets with short, sharp, upright lobes and clearly has the anthers deeply inserted. My dictionary does not list "Eximia" but I feel that it means "exceptional" or "outstanding". It differs from *S. josikaea* in that it has bigger florets with longer lobes and wider throat, and has bigger more rounded panicles. McKelvey says it originated in 1899 at the Froebel Nursery in Zurich.

I also submit another picture and I hope that both can be used. One of my lilacs proves consistently, year after year, to be a true star. Its flowerheads are so exuberant that the shrub looks not so much like a lilac than a convention of cheerleaders leaping in the air and waving their pom-poms aloft. (You think that is another bit of literary hyperbole? Just look at the picture - and remember you read it here first!).

Its name is a truly respected one. It is that of the soldier about whom the phrase "in every corporal's knapsack there is a field marshal's baton" was concocted. Andre Massena joined Napoleon's army as a horse groom but rose through the ranks to be Prince of Esseling, Duke of Rivoli and Marshal of France. No study of the Napoleonic Wars can avoid the name of Marshal Massena.

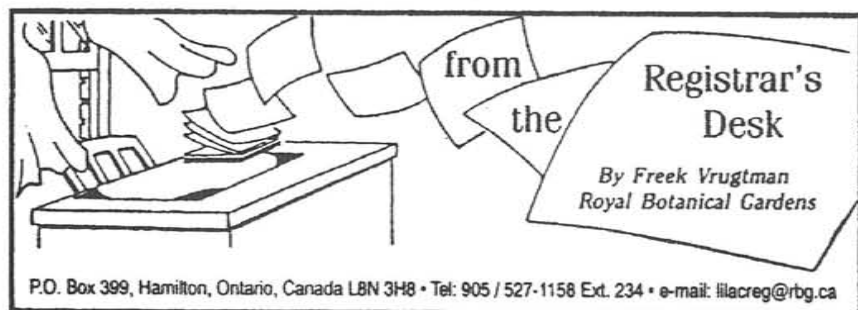
Syringa vulgaris 'Masséna' SVI. Lemoine et Fils, Nancy, France, 1923.

The flowers are enormous! They are single, beautifully symmetrical and average 3 cm across (one inch plus). The lobes are broad, rounded with raised and curved margins which form a shape like a slipper. The clusters of expanded buds are like

bunches of purple grapes. The colour of the floret is a lovely purple-red which bunch of big-league cheerleaders! This lilac does not feature prominently in lilac literature and I cannot understand why.

The drought is still affecting the plans for the new land. It should have been seeded in April but it was much too dry so that was put back until September. This worried me but my farmer neighbour has done a splendid job in keeping the and clean over the summer months. However, as I write the land is clearly parched and incapable of germinating grass-seed unless we get rain soon but none is yet forecast. Until the land is seeded, all my plans have to remain on hold because I cannot spend anything until I have settled with the farmer for the work he will have done for me on completion.

Does anyone out there know how to do a rain dance? Make it a naked one and I'll pay double.



Corrections, Updates and Comments

In early November 2002 the Registrar received a one-page list of notes from Bruce Peart, Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario, notes which Bruce had abstracted from notes-in-the-margin of the Lilac registrar made by Reva Ballreich.. These notations are greatly appreciated, because they are based on observations made "in the field" on living plants. It is often believed that the Registrar is infallible and everything printed in the Lilac Register must be correct; nothing can be farther from the truth. Registrars only copy, compile and compare notes; they search for the information that is wanting, and they do their best to resolve discrepancies. Notes taken in the field may turn out to be corrections or additions to the information in the Lilac Register, or they may kindle discussions. The following notes and the Registrar's comments are arranged alphabetically by cultivar name.

'Addie Tischler' (*Syringa vulgaris*), D V

Although the name of this selection by the late Robert W. Tischler has appeared in print, we have never seen a description. Reva reports that the flowers are double and pinkish (D V).

'Akademik Maksimov' (*Syringa vulgaris*), D VII/V

We have not seen the original description of this cultivar. Rubtsov et al., *Lilac species and cultivars in cultivation in USSR* (1980), has been translated by Charles Holetich and published as *Lilacs—Special Issue* Vol.11, No 2, December 1982. On p. 14 the description of 'Akademik Maksimov' is translated as "Buds dark purple violet; florets from light purple to soft pink, medium-sized (1.7 cm), double (with two closely attached corollas), nicely arranged, with petals bent inward." (D VII/V)

Reva reports that the flowers on her plant are single and white (S I). We can only conclude that single, white-flowering plants are not 'Akademik Maksimov'. Since we lack information on time and place of the introduction, or introductions of 'Akademik Maksimov' to North American gardens the Registrar would appreciate feedback from everyone who is growing plants of 'Akademik Maksimov', and letting us know how they flower, and where they were obtained.

'Bob Tischler' (*Syringa vulgaris*), S II

Although the name of this selection by the late Robert W. Tischler has appeared in print, we have never seen a description. Reva reports that the flowers are single and dark violet (S II)

'Bridal Wreath' (*Syringa* sp.), S I

The origin of this cultivar is not known; it has been recorded as being in cultivation at Descanso Gardens, La Cañada, California. No description has been found in the literature, and the species affiliation has not been reported. Reva reports that this is a very beautiful single white (S I)

'Fiala Remembrance' (*Syringa vulgaris*), Margaretten, D I

Synonyms for this epithet are 'Father Fiala', 'Father J. Fiala', 'Father John' (Margaretten, not Brown), 'Father John Fiala', 'Father John L. Fiala', 'Fr John Fiala' and 'John L. Fiala'. Because several versions of the name of this cultivar were published, and because one version duplicated the name already in use and registered for another cultivar, and because plants of the cultivar were distributed under additional versions of the name, a new name was chosen. 'Fiala Remembrance' was registered in December 2000 and published in *HortScience* Vol. 36, No. 5, p. 836.

People growing Joel Margaretten's double white selection under any one of the above names are advised to update their labels and records to the registered name 'Fiala Remembrance'.

'Idyllwild' (*Syringa vulgaris*), S III

Although the name of this selection by Reva Ballreich has appeared in print, no description appears to have been published. Reva reports that the flowers are single and dark bluish (S III)

'Lee Jewett Walker' (*Syringa vulgaris*), D V

The cultivar name 'Lee Jewett Walker' was registered in 1978 for a double lilac with pinkish flowers (D V) originated by Kenneth Berdeen. The registration was published in AABGA Bulletin Vol. 13, No. 4, p. 110, 1979. The cultivar was introduced in 1981. That plants in cultivation appeared to be single and pinkish (S V) was first reported by J. L. Fiala in *Lilacs - the genus Syringa*, p. 100 and Pl. 19(1988): Dr. Owen Rogers confirmed this in a letter dated July 11, 1995, in *Lilacs - Quarterly Journal* Vol. 24, No. 1, p. 23, Winter 1995 issue. Freek Vrugtman wrote:

"We must presume that Berdeen described his lilac correctly, and that cuttings distributed by him with the code name "No. 7-22" were the true double 'Lee Jewett Walker'. The single-flowered selection is not 'Lee Jewett Walker' and should not be grown and distributed under that name. If the single-flowered selection is considered having lasting merit it should be given a cultivar name, and the name should be registered and published."

No comments or feedback have been received following publication of the above note. The note just received from Reva Ballreich indicated that her plant, with single pinkish flowers, was purchased directly from Ken Berdeen. This is the first indication that the error may have occurred sometime between 1978 and 1981 at Ken Berdeen's nursery.

We still would like to know whether anyone received plants under the code "No 7-22", and whether their flowers are double or single.

'Little Bit' (*Syringa vulgaris*), S V

In a letter dated April 17, 1985, Maurice Lockwood brought this dwarf pink lilac, selected by Ken Berdeen, to the attention of the Registrar, but without mentioning whether its flowers were single or double. Max Peterson listed the name without description in *Lilacs - Proceedings* Vol. 16, No. 1, P. 20, 1987. Reva reports that the flowers of 'Little Bit' are single and pinkish (S V).

'Marie Marcelin' (*Syringa vulgaris*), D V

John C. Wister listed this cultivar in the Report of 1953 Lilac Survey *Lilacs for America*, p. 34, without descriptive information. It had been reported as being grown in The Netherlands and in the lilac collection at Highland Park, Rochester, New York, USA. Though now reported from a few collections, it is not known where 'Marie Marcelin' originated; the cultivar name has not been seen in print with a description. Reva reports that this lilac has double pinkish flowers (D V).

'Maurice Lockwood' (*Syringa vulgaris*), D IV & I

This is the non-registered cultivar name for a selection made by Ken Berdeen; the date of introduction has not been established. The name was first listed without description by Max Peterson in *Lilacs - Proceedings* Vol. 16, No. 1, p. 20, November 1987, as: M. L. (Maurice Lockwood). E. King and R. Coggeshall listed the name "Maurice Lockwood" in *Lilacs - Quarterly Journal* Vol. 27, No. 2, p. 50, Spring 1998, without description.

Reva Ballreich and Max Peterson report that this cultivar has double lilac and white flowers (D IV & I).

'Mauve Mist' (*Syringa vulgaris*), S VI

Originated by T. A. Havemeyer, selected and named by M. M. Eaton, the cultivar name was listed by J. C. Wister in *Arnoldia* Vol. 23, No. 4, p. 83, 1963, but without descriptive information. Also without description the name was listed by W. Eickhorst in *ILS Lilac Newsletter* Vol. 4, No. 1, p. 4-5, 1978. Reva reports that this lilac has single mauve flowers (S VI).

'Nakai' (*Syringa oblata* subsp. *dilatata*), S V

In 1917 E. H. Wilson collected seed of *Syringa oblata* subsp. *dilatata* in Korea. He reported on collecting the seed in *Journal of the Arnold Arboretum* Vol. 1, p. 41, 1919. One plant raised from Wilson's seed sample No. 9232 was grown at the estate of Mr. Walter Hunnewell, Wellesley, Massachusetts; it was described by S. D. McKelvey in *The Lilac - a Monograph*, pp. 186-188, 1928. J. L. Fiala considered this plant to be superior to other representatives of *Syringa oblata* subsp. *dilatata* and named it 'Nakai'; name and description were published in Fiala's *Lilacs - the Genus Syringa*, pp. 59-61, 1988.

Fiala named this cultivar for Takenoshin Nakai [1882-1952], Japanese botanist and author of the name *Syringa dilatata*.

Fiala reported that the original plant growing at the former Hunnewell estate had been transferred to the Arnold Arboretum, but subsequent searches of the Arnold Arboretum records could not confirm this. Since no plants of 'Nakai' could be located F. Vrugtman published a note in *Lilacs - Quarterly Journal* Vol. 25, No. 2, pp. 37-38, Spring 1996 issue, hoping that 'Nakai' had been propagated and someone would have a plant. There was no response.

Reva Ballreich reports that in 1988 Peter Murray at Falconskeape, J. L. Fiala's garden, gave her a rooted cutting of 'Nakai'. It is a tall and large grower with a very large inflorescence; the florets are single and pinkish (S V). - This is the first and only record of the existence of 'Nakai'. Reva's note also confirms that Fiala had a plant of 'Nakai' at Falconskeape. The Registrar has never seen an inventory of the lilacs at Falconskeape.

'Pink Perfection' (*Syringa Vulgaris*), D V

The only published record known of the name 'Pink Perfection' appears to be the one in J. L. Fiala, *Lilacs - the Genus Syringa*, p. 207, 1988, without description. Fiala credits this cultivar to Minerva S. Castle of Rowencroft Gardens, Meadowvale, Ontario, Canada. This, however, has not been confirmed. The catalogues of Rowencroft Gardens, including those with hand-written notations, are in the Nursery and Seed Trade Catalogue Collection at Royal Botanical Gardens, Hamilton, Ontario; the name 'Pink Perfection' does not appear. Rowencroft Gardens did sell or distribute un-named lilac seedlings; presumably it is one of these seedlings that was named 'Pink Perfection', but it is not known when and where. The Registrar would welcome additional information.

Reva reports that the florets of 'Pink Perfection' are double and pinkish (D V).

'Purple Mystery' (*Syringa vulgaris*) D VII

A cultivar of unknown origin listed by Max Peterson in *Lilacs - Proceedings* Vol 16, No. 1, p. 22, November 1987, without description.

Reva reports that this is a double purple (D VII)

'Souvenir de Mme Louis Gielis' (*Syringa vulgaris*), S I

John C. Wister listed this cultivar in the Report of 1953 Lilac Survey *Lilacs for America*, p. 42, without descriptive information, and without indication that it was in cultivation in North America at the time.

Reva reports that her plants flower single and white (S I)

'Stephanie Rowe' (*Syringa vulgaris*), S V

J. L. Fiala in *Lilacs - the Genus Syringa*, p. 217, 1988, lists this Kenneth Berdeen introduction only as being "pink". E. King and R. Coggeshall in *Lilacs - Quarterly Journal* Vol. 27, No 2, pp. 49-50, Spring 1998 issue, list the name without description. Reva reports this to be a single pink cultivar (S V).

LILAC DISTRIBUTION

ROUND 2

By Frank Moro

Hello to all members and thank you for participating and making our first distribution a successful one in the first lilac distribution in fall 2003. Final results will be posted in the spring quarterly as the sales continue as I am writing this paper. The idea of this bi annual sale is to make lilacs newer lilacs and sometimes to rediscover older cultivars that we much too often forget about. Please remember that a good portion of the sales goes to ILS. We are increasing the choice this time around to give everyone a more diversified choice. Remember they will not be repeated for a while. All lilacs will be sent out in spring 2004 as of April 25. Photos available on ILS website at www.lilacs.freesevers.com

You may also fax your orders to 450-477-3797 or email them to lilacs@axess.com. Each lilac is only available in the size indicated. Buy more than three lilacs and subtract 10% off your order before shipping.

As a new program two mailings per year will be offered and lilacs will change each time. You can see photos of them on the ILS site at www.lilacs.freesevers.com. **Deadline to order is April 15, 2004.**

We can also send out any of these lilacs as gifts if you wish for different celebrations as Father or Mother's Day, a new baby in the family or just a hello to a friend. A small card can be included free of charge also

6-12" sized lilacs

vulgaris 'Dwight Eisenhower'

Member

\$10.00

Non Member

\$12.00

1969

Fenicchia S-3 Mild Z2-7 H8-12'

An excellent pale blue brushed lavender display of florets. Good fragrance. Named for Dwight David Eisenhower [1890-1969], 34th Protected Health Information resident of the USA.

vulgaris 'De Miribel'

\$10.00

\$12.00

1903

Lemoine S-2 high z2-7 H8-12'

A single lilac with long rounded lobes which are a darkish violet fading to paler, pinkish violet at the edges. The color fades from the margins inwards so that eventually some florets seem to bear a small Maltese cross.

× **'Sugar Plum Fairy'**

\$12.00

\$14.00

H 4-5' zone 4-7

A new dwarf which has palibin and microphylla superba background. It has single rosy lilac flowers and does repeat some bloom in the fall. Excellent fragrance. The plant is very dense and rounded.

'Betsy Ross'	\$12.00	\$14.00
S-1 zone 4-8USDA H8-12'		
Single white flowers with huge panicles completely covering the plant. Good tolerance to mildew. Very fragrant and abundant bloomer.		

12 inch plus sized plants below

× 'Lilac Sunday'	\$16.00	\$18.00
1997		
Alexander III S-7 fragrant Z3-9 H7-9'		
Leaves resemble very much a chinensis lilac. They are small and the bush is very feathery. The flowers are single dark purplish pink and literally cover the entire plant.		

vulgaris 'Nadezda'	\$16.00	\$18.00
1970		
Kolesnikov D-3 extreme Z2-7 H8-12'		
A Russian lilac who's name means "hope". Purple buds open to light blue flowers. A superior choice than Président Grévy for this color category.		

vulgaris 'Sweetheart'	\$16.00	\$18.00
1953		
Clarke S-6 high Z2-7 H8-12'		
With magenta buds opening to delicate double powder pink florets, this is one of showiest lilacs.		

josiflexa 'Agnes Smith'	\$14.00	\$12.00
1970		
Rogers S-1 spicy Z2-7 H9-12'		
A rare josiflexa lilac that is of a pure white color with very little signs of pink in it. Spicy fragrance.		

These prices are in USD. For any Canadian orders please add 40% to plants as well as shipping and for overseas orders add \$8.00 USD for phytosanitary certificates and shipping will be done at cost. New lilac selections will be out for the summer quarterly.

Shipping is by priority mail and the cost for shipping is 1 lilac \$4.00 or for 2 or more \$3.00 each. ILS will accept checks, money orders or VISA, Mastercard or American Express. All prices are in USD.

Please send your orders to
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 C/O ILS lilac distribution
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Please make any checks payable to International Lilac Society

VARIEGATED LATE LILACS

By Frank Moro, VP Canada

With the help of Corinna Moro, Eastern Canada regional VP

Over the years of producing lilacs I have always seen preston or other late lilacs sometimes have a variegated leaf for part of the summer. Our first member to officially come out and name one was Colin Chapman with his 'New York' lilac.

Earlier this summer Freek Vrugtman emailed me and asked about my experiences with Goplana if I had seen a variegated one. If I remember right someone in the Netherlands had asked him about one they had. So I sent Corinna into our production with a mission to spend a couple of days looking with the researcher eye more. To my surprise we had a few ourselves. Not only were original mother plants variegated, but so were now new one-gallon material. All the following late lilacs were first propagated with no variegation; and now since we have had them at the nursery for second and third generations are showing variegation not only in early summer but right to the fall.

Is this a virus or environmental change that is causing the variegations?

We now have new variegated lilacs from the following: × "Spellbinder" (name not registered), × 'Josée', prestoniae "Nerissa", × 'Royal Crown' (name not registered), prestoniae 'Adrianna', prestoniae 'Calphurnia', 'prestoniae Handel'.

Corinna had actually mentioned to me after the ILS auction at Cap a L'Aigle that we had purchased a 'Handel' which was not variegated. I can tell you that ours is speckled in yellow so much it gets me excited. Some have white margins with some pinkish tones when the leaves unfold and others have speckled yellow all over the plant. This will definitely put some new life into our late lilacs which are too often overlooked because they do not smell as sweet as hyacinthiflora and vulgaris types.

The one thing we must not forget is that the late lilacs are less susceptible to late frosts and we should look on to them for blending perfect balances of later season flowering. If anyone has any thoughts about the variegation I as well as everyone would be more than ecstatic to hear from you.

A whole new world of lilacs are at our fingertips; let's explore them as a society. A New Day has Come!!!!

TIPS FOR BEGINNERS

Q: *How can I keep deer from eating the tip buds off my lilacs?*

A: There is no absolute answer to your question. The deer herds are increasing in many parts of the country and there is a concomitant increase in the number of deer who brazenly come into built-up areas and selectively eat some plants while ignoring others.

A number of materials have been suggested that work on the theory that deer don't like the smell. Such things as bar soap, blood, human hair and a spray of petrified eggs all have their advocates. However, some are just plain not effective and all of them fail after the smell wears off unless the smelly material is often reapplied.

Commercially, electric fences are used in apple orchards and ornamental plant nurseries. If you want to use this control, contact your local Garden Shop or Cooperative Extension office, because there are some problems and liabilities of which you need to be aware. You might try fine bird netting if it is available to you, since the netting is not dangerous to humans; but there is no guarantee that it will be effective.

At the end of this basically depressing answer, we must mention that there are a couple of effective things that you can do. One is to grow your lilacs up above the browse level where the deer can't reach the buds. Another is to substitute plants that the deer don't like such as spruce, fir and larch trees. Also remember that deer herds will move around and a feeding pattern this year may not be followed by a repeat next year.

If you have come up with a control method or material that works, or a lilac that deer avoid while eating the one next to it, please send a note to the *Lilacs* Editor so it can be shared with other ILSers.

2003 CONVENTION PHOTOS



Left to right, Peter Ely, Ann Carvill, Irene Stark, and Jack Alexander.



Day of Celebration

Auction Site 2003



2003 CONVENTION PHOTOS



*A performer of the
Day of Celebration*



At the Auction

*Watching performers on
Day of Celebration*



EDITOR'S NOTE

The late blooming lilacs have not received as much "press" as the *Syringa vulgaris* cultivars but every once-in-a-while something surfaces (see Freek Vrugtman's comment under *Editor's Notes* and Frank Moro's article in this issue). So, it seemed appropriate to reprint an article by the late Isabella Preston on the origin of *Syringa* × *Prestoniae* and other late blooming hybrids and cultivars.

SOME NEW HYBRID LILACS

by Isabella Preston Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa

Published in *Gardening Illustrated*, December 1946

The late-blooming lilacs, originated at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, are increasing in popularity as they become better known. Five years ago I wrote a short account of their origin for *Gardening Illustrated* and since that date several of the varieties have received awards.

Syringa × *Prestoniae* had *S. villosa* and *S. reflexa* for parents and the seedlings were named after Shakespeare's heroines. Very few of the second generation seedlings of this cross were distributed as most of them were similar to the first crosses. 'Oberon', with quantities of very pale pinkish-lilac flowers, was used as an illustration for the earlier article. 'Romeo' has attractive phlox-pink flowers which are made more conspicuous by the reddish-brown flower stalks. These are the two varieties that have been propagated.

S. × josiflexa has *S. Josikaea* and *S. reflexa* for parents. Only one seedling was obtained from this cross and it was named "Guinevere". It is a strong grower with large leaves and huge panicles of blooms which are borne in great profusion. The colour of the flowers is purplish-lilac with a paler tip to the petals, but in general appearance the bush is very similar to the *Prestoniae* varieties. Several seedlings have been grown from open pollinated seed of this plant and they showed great variation. Three from seeds sown in 1924 which had pink flowers were named.

'Bellicent' is the most ornamental in the garden. The bush is 7 to 8 feet tall and has a more graceful habit of growth than the others. At blooming time it has quantities of small panicles on long lateral branches as well as the large central truss of pink flowers. The blooming date is from late May to the first two weeks of June, in Ottawa. This variety was given a First Class Certificate in London this spring.

'Enid' is a strong-growing shrub with large leaves and a cluster of pink flowers about the same colour as those of 'Bellicent', but its vigorous upright growth makes it less attractive than the other.

'Lynette' was the name given to the third sister of these seedlings. It is similar in habit to 'Enid' but is a deeper shade and not so true a pink.

'Elaine' is also an open pollinated seedling of 'Guinevere', but it is very unlike the three mentioned above. It is upright in habit and grows about 10 feet tall and the leaves are large and coarse. The individual flowers, too, are large and of heavy texture. They are faintly flushed with pale rose-purple on opening, but in normal seasons the colour rapidly fades to white. (I say normal seasons, because this year for the first time the colour did not change and the only reason that was suggested for this unusual occurrence was the cool weather that we had in early June.) It has a pleasing fragrance; the flower stems are reddish-brown and add to the beauty of the inflorescence. It blooms in May and early June. This is a very unusual-looking lilac and whether it will prove valuable is difficult to say. It has not yet been tested in many places.

In 1930 a cross was made between *S. reflexa* and a plant that was sent out by Lemoine, of Nancy, France, under the name of *S. Wolfii*, but in a late catalogue the true *S. Wolfii* was listed and a note said the former plant sent out under the name was not true, but no hint was given as to what the plant might be. We have not yet been able to identify it. The seedlings from the cross have attractive pink flowers and we are distributing one under the name of 'Ethel M. Webster'. It grows from 6 to 7 feet tall and makes a fairly compact bush which is well covered with large panicles of pink flowers, many of which show the drooping habit of *reflexa*. We think that this variety should be popular and useful for small gardens as it does not appear to be such a vigorous grower as the *Prestoniae* group.

A cross between *S. reflexa* and *S. Sweginzowii* was made successfully in 1928 and several seedlings were obtained. They inherited some of the pink colour of *S. reflexa* but the bushes are smaller and the foliage not so coarse as in many of the other hybrids. The bushes are not so hardy as those mentioned earlier which is not surprising as *S. Sweginzowii* is often damaged in severe winters at Ottawa.

One of these hybrids was pollinated with *S. reflexa* in 1933 and several interesting seedlings were obtained. One we have named 'Fountain' and the name describes the appearance of the bush when it is full of bloom. The panicles resemble those of *S. reflexa* in their shape and drooping habit, but they are wider and the flowers last longer. Here the corollas of *S. reflexa* split and turn brown soon after opening so that in spite of their rich rose colour the bush is not very attractive. The habit and floriferousness of 'Fountain' can be seen from the illustrations which were made in 1945. This year the bush carries even more flowers. Their colour is

purplish-lilac (Ridgway) in bud and much paler on opening with the deeper colour in the throat. It was in full bloom on June 8 this year, but the date varies according to the season. A sister seedling has redder flowers than 'Fountain', but it is not so floriferous so does not make such an attractive bush.

Further breeding work among the species of *Syringa* should give many interesting forms. The use of *S. reflexa* as a parent for hybrids has proved that it will transmit some of its rich rose colour and the drooping habit of the panicles to its progeny and further developments could be expected if the work were continued.

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