VOLUME 50 • NUMBER 2 • SPRING 2020

Lilacs

Quarterly Journal of the International Lilac Society

Denver Botanic Gardens

Robert Hoepfl

Syringa 'Irene'
Photo by Jo Anderson

VOLUME 50, NO. 2 QUARTERLY JOURNAL
A Publication of THE INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY

ISSN 1046-9761
Copies of this publication are available for $5.00 (U.S.)
by writing to the International Lilac Society, c/ o Karen McCAULEY, 325 West 82nd Street, Chaska, NM 55318-3208

INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY
President Robert Zavodny
1085 Mount Vernon Avenue, Akron, OH 44310
president@internationallilacsociety.org
(330) 329-2993

Executive Vice President Bradley Bittorf
207 N. Maguire Ave, Apt. 222, Tuscon, AZ 85710
execvp@internationallilacsociety.org

Interim Membership Secretary Karen McCauley
325 West 82nd Street, Chaska, MN 55318-3208
membership@internationallilacsociety.org (952) 443-3703

Treasurer Karen McCauley
325 West 82nd Street, Chaska, MN 55318-3208
treasurer@internationallilacsociety.org (952) 443-3703

Editor Tom Gober
1805 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Akron, OH 44310
editor@internationallilacsociety.org (330) 503-8140

Membership Classification (U.S. Funds)
Single/ Annual $25.00
Family $35.00
Institution/ Commerical $55.00
Life $500.00
Mail Membership dues to Karen McCauley, 325 West 82nd Street, Chaska, MN 55318-3208
MASTERCARD and VISA credit cards accepted
Intenational Postage Fee $10 (Excludes U.S. & Canada) additional to dues.

INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY is a non-profit corporation comprised of individuals who share a particular interest, appreciation, and fondness for lilacs. Through exchange of knowledge, experience, and facts gained by members it is helping to promote, educate, and broaden public understanding and awareness.

 Published by the International Lilac Society.
Tom Gober, Editor, 1085 Mt. Vernon Avenue, Akron, OH 44310
International Lilac Society Web Site Address:
www.internationallilacsociety.org
Published 2020

INTERNATIONAL LILAC SOCIETY

EST. 1971

Table of Contents

President's Message

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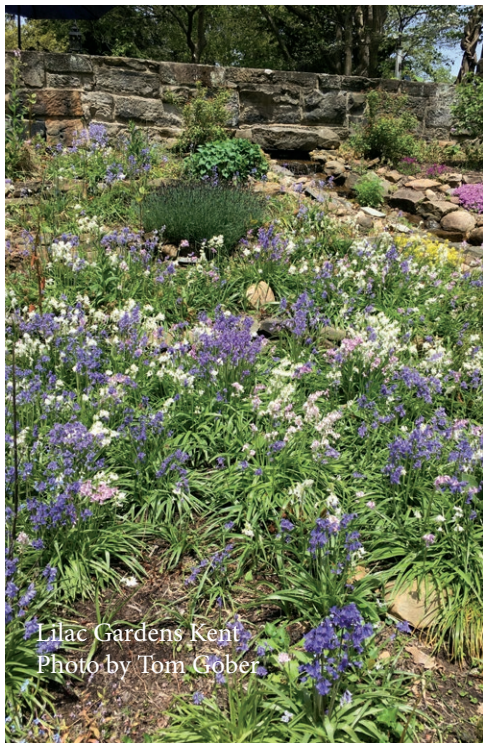
Dear *Syringa* lovers around the world,

Happy spring to all! What a year 2020 has started out to be. Can we hit a "Restart Button", or even a "Fast-Forward Button"? So much has changed in our lives with the advent of COVID-19. Rochester Lilac Festival, Lilacia Park Parade and Festival, and other lilac events all canceled. Our Convention in St. Georges, Quebec followed suit, the US/Canada border is still closed. Schools, restaurants, retail stores, movie theatres, medical offices and many other venues all closed as well. This is a once in a lifetime pandemic, and I pray that it has not, too adversely, affected our members or their families.



Lilac Gardens Kent
Photo by Tom Gober

Lilac Gardens Kent
Photo by Tom Gober

At this time of social distancing, I have been able to work in my lilac garden (being an unemployed Dentist due to COVID-19). For me, working in the garden is great therapy. It's the one time I have control of something, and I can shut off my brain. It also releases a creative side. As I peruse the ILS Facebook page, I see so many of us sharing photos of our gardens and lilacs. I see the excitement of a recent lilac acquisition blooming for the first time in our gardens. I personally have 20 lilacs blooming for the first time. I also see the disappointment when Mother Nature throws her curve in the weather and causes the emerging flower buds to freeze and wither. It reminds me of the quote: "to plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow". Or if you are a Cleveland Browns fan…. There's always next year!

As far as the website goes, many, if not most, of the issues we were having, have been resolved. Thank you for all of your patience. With anything new, there is a learning process. This website has been designed to grow with us. You can renew your ILS Membership online. A number of publications are available for purchase and you may view or purchase a copy of the Lilac Phot & Color Database. It's now available on DVD or USB flash drive, as well..

I would like to inform you that past and present issues of 'LILACS' Journals are now on the members-only side of the website: many thanks to Mark DeBard, Tom Gober, and Claire Fouquet for their hard work in accomplishing this, adding to the array of 'LILACS' journals already available online. Another thing, which has been completed by Claire, is the indexing of these journals from 2005 to present. This is also a benefit for our members. The indexing has been done by names of people, names of lilacs, story/article topics. This compliments the indexing of older journals done in the past. Again, thanks to all who gave of their time to finish this project, spread the word! (It's a great benefit to all our members.)

Dr. Mark DeBard, our Registrar, also released and published another update to the Lilac Registry as of April 2020. Just recently, I was looking up information from this Registry to add to the plant tags I place on my lilacs. I like to place the year of hybridization of the various lilacs on these tags. The *Syringa* L. Registry is a wealth of facts.

Once again, next year's Convention will be in Rochester, NY. The 2021 Convention marks the 50th Anniversary of our Society. If you have photos of the first convention or subsequent conventions, please send them to Tom Gober. I would like to see a booklet published commemorating our first 50 years. If they are digitized, then email. If not, then please send in regular mail. Also, I am thinking about doing an 18-month calendar, take your best pictures, either of single panicles of flowers or groupings of lilacs. The best 20 will be used; I will be posting on Facebook as well. Sent photos to Tom as well, with calendar contest in the subject area.

Finally, I want to talk about the work the Preservation Committee is doing. This is very important to me. I have heard so many times that the work of are best hybridizers is being lost. This is a global issue. So many of us collectors take pride in having the rarest of lilacs. Now imagine if someone there had the only one of a variety is lost or damaged, so is that rare variety. If you look at California, the recent wild fires claimed acres of land. Now imagine if someone there had the only of a variety and fire ravaged that garden, now it's extinct. Same thing can happen in an older person's collection. If they can't manage the property any longer and trees and undergrowth takeover, then the collection can be lost (that happened to mine). Extreme weather and even war can cause loss of rare varieties. So, now back to what the Preservation Committee is doing. They are asking everyone to volunteer a list of the lilacs in their collections, both private and in public gardens/arboretums. Then, identify the rare lilacs on these lists and compare the Committee's list of lilacs of merit. In some cases, there are only one or two plants left, on these lists. In talking to Josh Miller, he recently talked about one lilac thought to be extinct, 'Miss Millie', was actually found in Ohio! It is now in several areas (a story of success. And I know Tatiana Polyakova has had similar success.) So, phase one is actively underway. If you are contacted by Josh Miller, or his Co-Chair Tatiana Polyakova, please offer up your list of plants. We need to work together on this project. And if you are contacted about having one of these rare or limited in existence lilacs, please take good care of that plant. I know, in my collection, that I have several of these. Once they produce suckers, I will donate them to the Committee so

that others may have them. I have a few that are going to bloom for the first time; so then, I can confirm that they are the correct lilac and safe guard those plants. The future goal of the committee would be to distribute donated lilacs, through the ILS, to public gardens and arboretums to ensure the preservations of these lilacs of merit.

Lilac Gardens Kent
Photo by Tom Gober

I decided to rewrite my closing, and offer my sincerest condolences to the family and friends of Bob Hoepfl. He passed away May 9, 2020. He was a past President of the ILS, executive vice-president and former superintendent of Horticulture at Highland Botanical Park, Rochester, NY, USA. He and his wife were working with Karen McCauley in planning the 2021 Convention. His loss is a great loss to Highland Park and to the ILS. In these difficult times, including COVID-19, may we come together, forgetting our differences and work on being one global human society.

At the end of the month of May, held our first global virtual Executive Committee and Board of Directors Zoom Meeting. It was a success. It will be a first for many of us, but not likely the last. It will be a great way to communicate with each other, in spite of our global distances. Hope to see you all very soon!

Dr. Robert Zavodny (Bob)

ILS President

ILS Open Positions

We have the following open positions that we are looking to fill. If interested in volunteering, please contact Bob Zavodny at lilacgardenskent@gmail.com or 330-329-2993

Membership Secretary

Responsibilities include:

- Deposit Dues (US Resident Required)
- Maintain Membership Roster (knowledge in Microsoft Excel required)
- Provide Quarterly Mailing List for Journal
- Year End Membership Roster Reports
- Contact members with expired memberships

Honors and Awards Chair

Responsibilities include:

- Solicit nominations for annual awards
- Select winners from nominations received
- Prepare Awards and present at annual convention

Nominations Chair

Responsibilities include:

- Identify and solicit candidates for ILS Board of Directors
- Provide Editor with short bio on each candidate

Convention Corner Calendar

May 13-15, 2021 Rochester, New York

The ILS was originally organized in New York in May 1971. It's official we will be celebrating our 50th Anniversary in New York. If you are a member in New York and would like to volunteer in any way, your assistance would be greatly appreciated. Please contact Karen McCauley if you would like to volunteer.

May 2022 Kent, Ohio

Details will be announced later.

Sadly, the 2020 Convention in Saint Georges, Quebec had to be cancelled due to the Covid19 pandemic. Possible rescheduling of an event there has not been determined.

Since we cannot have our annual convention, an-Convention-al Virtual Auction was held the beginning of September with great success. Result will be in the next journal.

Thank you to all the ILS volunteers that donate their time, and money, to make these events happen. If you would like to host an upcoming convention, please contact me. Thanks for your cooperation.

Karen McCauley

Convention Chairman

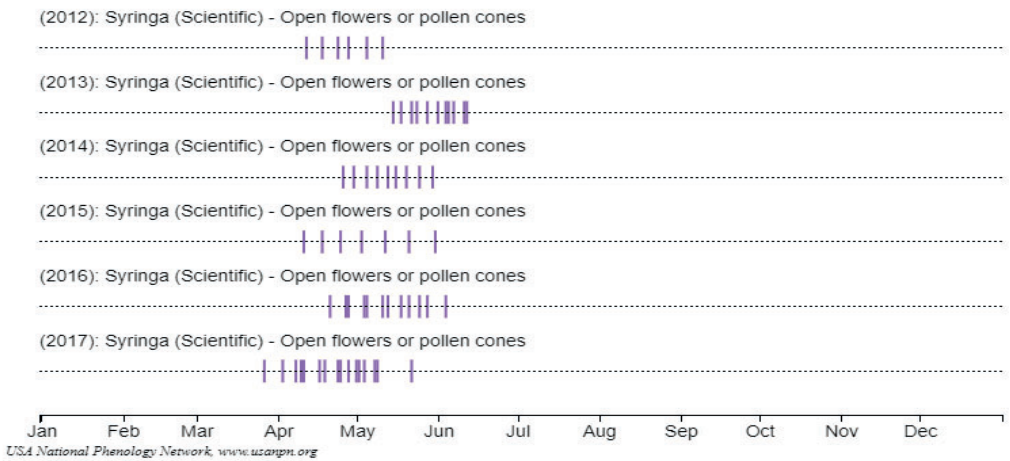
952.443.3703 mccauleytk@aol.com

A New Beat From An Old Heart
Honoring the Lilac Collection at Denver Botanic Gardens
by Kevin Philip Williams

-

The herbaceous understory of the Lilac Garden Photo by Kevin Williams

When I landed, I switched off airplane mode for the first time in three weeks, transmuting my phone back into a phone. I had been traveling since early May, first to the US Botanic Gardens in Washington DC to install a steppe garden on behalf of Denver Botanic Gardens (DBG) and then to Slovenia to spend several weeks exploring the Julian Alps. Scrolling through my messages, a text from a colleague caught my eye. It contained a picture of battered leaves, denuded branches and a garden bed sparkling with fresh hail. It simply said "Lilac Garden." My heart sank. I was hoping in my homecoming to catch the last glimpses of the late bloomers. Still, shredding hail and heavy, crushing snow in June is to be expected. This is spring in Colorado.



Five years of lilac phenology monitoring show fluctuations in flowering across the years. The data show the importance of tracking phenology over many years. Some years lilacs will bloom earlier than others. Many years of data are needed to detect lasting shifts in timing. We continue to build this dataset with volunteer assistance.

Lilacs hold a special place in the history of Colorado horticulture. As settlers moved west they brought bits of their old lives with them, including ornamental plants, lilacs being relatively easy to transport and forgiving of rough travel conditions, made the trip often. Despite the extraordinary differences between the growing conditions of the East's temperate woodlands and the North American steppe, lilacs thrived. They can still be found growing throughout the prairie, remnants of the past, surrounding old, abandoned homesteads, demonstrating that once established, lilacs require little or no supplemental water, a very important feature for survival in this semi-arid environment.

The first lilac collection at Denver Botanic Gardens originated with a donation of about four-dozen hybrids from Milton J. Keegan in the spring of 1953, which were planted in an allée dubbed Lilac Lane.

Unfortunately, this collection would prove to be short-lived. In 1959, in response to detrimental public vandalism, DBG moved from its open, unprotected location in Denver's City Park, to its current location, a former cemetery, on the edge of Denver's Cheesman Park, which could be more effectively secured.

Sixty-one years later, Denver Botanic Gardens is home to approximately 204 lilacs, comprised of 31 different species, subspecies, and nothospecies. The majority of the collection, and the oldest surviving specimens, planted in 1974, reside in a garden that has only recently been given the title of Lilac Garden. In 2017, the Heirloom Garden, which focused on the cultivation of classic garden perennials like iris, daylilies and peonies, was split into two distinct gardens, the Ann Montague Iris and Daylily Collection and the Lilac Garden, finally honoring the longevity and importance of lilacs in Denver's cultural landscape. This designation has focused and reinvigorated the efforts to curate and expand the lilac collection.

The Lilac Garden skyline Photo by Kevin Williams

The former thematic focus for lilac acquisition emphasized selection for function in specific garden designs or particularly showy S. vulgaris cultivars. However, since 2018, we have been pursuing diversity in species. Through exchanges of cuttings with the Arnold Arboretum and Brooklyn Botanic Garden and seed exchanges via Index Seminum, an international system of seed exchange between research institutions, we have been able to add most species, subspecies and nothospecies currently available outside of China (we have yet to identify exchange partners for true S. tibetica, S. afghanica and S. pinnatifolia). Additionally, based on developments in Syringa phylogenetics we have begun adding the former genera of Ligustrum and Ligustrina to our collection.

Syringa vulgaris 'Aucubaefolia'

Photo by Kevin Williams

Exploring a mixture of wild-type lilacs with cultivated lilacs has also prompted realignment in how we approach our display and stewardship of the collection.

We wanted to redefine this space by the surprise that it could offer in contrast to the relatively static post-flowering state of lilacs and control the heavy vibe of many conventional lilac displays. In 2018 we raked out the heavily mulched garden beds and planted and seeded tens of thousands of bulbs, carices, grasses, sub-shrubs, herbaceous perennials and reseeding annuals to create a verdant, living tapestry to expand garden interest beyond just the spring flowering season. We also dug out the traditional Kentucky bluegrass turf lawn and replaced it with a mixture of drought-tolerant, dwarf, fine-leaved fescues and broadleaf forbs including clover, yarrow, thyme, veronica and immortelle among others. We're hoping that by exposing the potential that exists in turning a lawn into a garden, a walkable, steppable garden, we'll be able to convey something to our visitors about the wide range of possible interactions that we're able to have with green spaces, even when we're just walking through them.

Carex radiata 'Halifax', Ajuga reptans 'Caitlin's Giant' and Eschscholzia californica stitching together the understory of the Lilac Garden - Photo by Kevin Williams

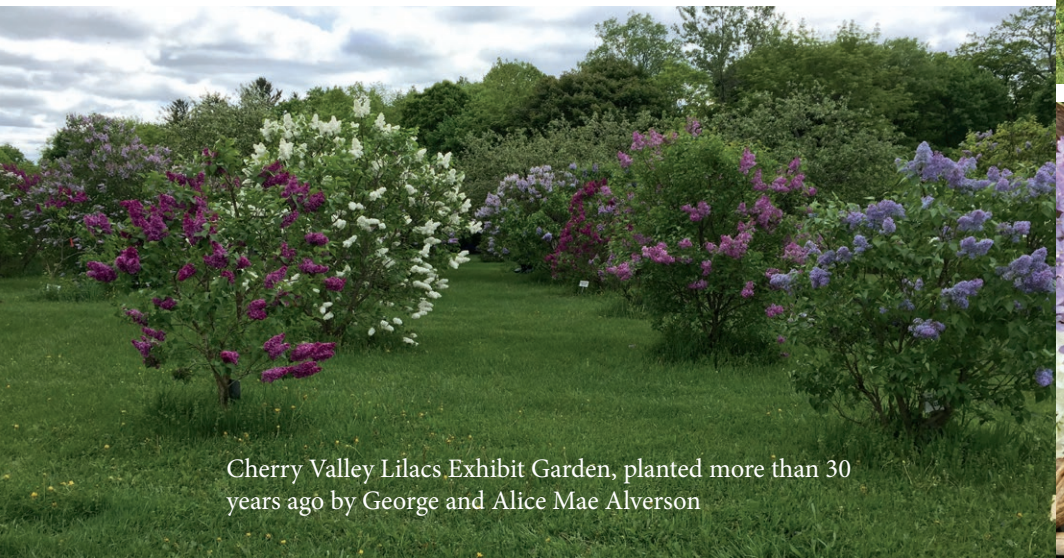
The Creation of Lilac Essential Oil

-

by Charlepan Dawson (story and photos)

It is difficult, almost impossible, to find authentic lilac essential oil derived from lilac flowers. Why? Because lilac flowers cannot be distilled, pressed, or crushed, to extract their essence, the way other essential oils are made.

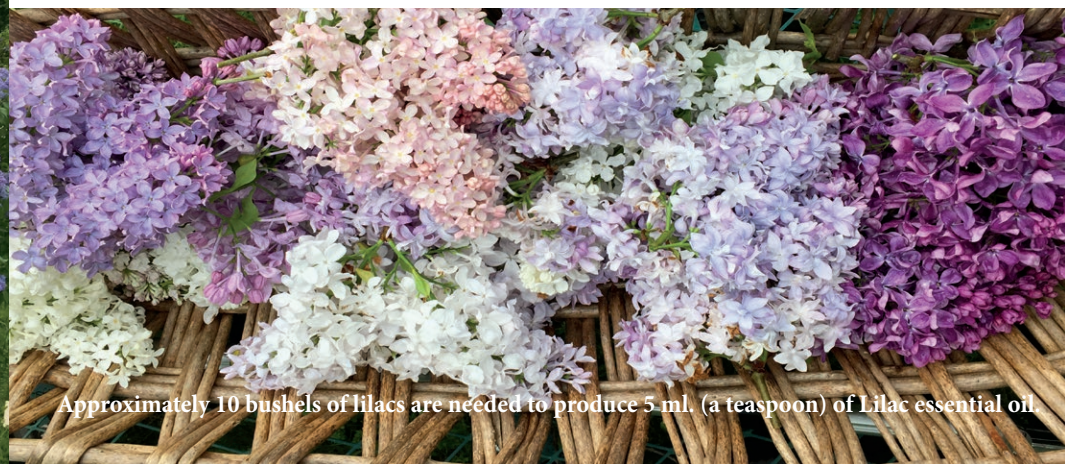
At Cherry Valley Lilacs, a small planting of about 150 lilacs in up-state New York, real lilac essential oil is being extracted through an ancient method known as Enfleurage.



Cherry Valley Lilacs Exhibit Garden, planted more than 30 years ago by George and Alice Mae Alverson

Enfleurage is the French term for a labor intensive and all-but-vanished technique in which a fat is used to absorb scent from fresh exhaling flowers. Enfleurage has been practiced as early as 600BC where record of it is seen in some Egyptian paintings. However, reference information on enfleurage is scarce in extractors' hand books and perfumers' guides, because the practice had died out as synthetics improved and became more cost effective. Through several years of practice and experimentation, Charle-Pan Dawson, and her husband, Dana, have rediscovered, reinvented and adapted the process of enfleurage to lilacs.

The Enfleurage Studio, or 'The Perfumery', and a rare moment, sitting. Perfumery tours are announced on the website, www.CherryValleyLilacs.com



Approximately 10 bushels of lilacs are needed to produce 5 ml. (a teaspoon) of Lilac essential oil.

Cutting RVH (Ruhm von Horstenstein) for Enfleurage

Cutting Miss Kim for Enfleurage

Bushels of flowers are cut each day, but it hardly makes a dent in the blooms left in the exhibit garden.

Flowers are picked each day from the more fragrant varieties

Moisture from dew must be blotted from the flowers onto paper towels before the flowers are put into the Chassis

Lilacs being sorted for Enfleurage

The Corpse on the Chassis

Flowers airing before being placed in the Chassis

The fresh lilacs exhale their vapors into glass trays called chassis. The chassis have been spread with a layer of organically grown, sustainably sourced vegetable fat. The fat is called the corpse. After 33 days of daily fresh flower changes, the fragrant corpse becomes a pomade. The pomade is harvested and put into jars of organic cane spirits. The pomade soaks for several months and releases its absorbed lilac oil into the spirits. Then the spirits are gently evaporated and the oil of lilac is extracted. It is a wonder how any appre-ciable amount of lilac oil is captured from the vapors of the tiny living flowers exhaling their scent onto the fat, but surprisingly, it is.

Stacking the Chassis in the Perfumery

Enfleuraging the Corpse

The lilac enfleurage essential oil has a deep, full spectrum scent, with discernable smells of Azure Plena, Silver King, Maiden's Blush, Beauty of Moscow and others, in accordance with which ones were the colossal bloomers that year. The enfleurage lilac oil scent will last up to 12 hours on a paper test strip. Directly on the skin, a hint is still remaining after four or five hours. Lilac oil is a single note

Placing Lilacs in the Chassis

Each Chassis has a layer of fat both top and bottom of the glass and is stacked to double exposure

perfume or may be used in aromatherapy as an essential oil. It is gentle and fleeting and creates a very intimate cloud of lilac scent in an aura around the wearer. A perfumer skilled in the art of blending natural perfumes can use a natural 'fix' to make the scent linger longer or formulate to resound with other notes.

The pomade may be used as a stand-alone single note solid perfume, moisturizing massage butter, or beard tamer, and it may be blended to create other products.

Lilac oil and lilac pomade may be purchased online at www.CherryValleyLilacs.com. Visit the website and join the email newsletter for more updates on lilac farm hours, lilac varieties available in pots, lilac oil and lilac pomades for sampling and for sale.

Harvesting the Pomade after 33 days of fresh lilac changes

Lilac oil yield

Pomade soaking in jars of organic spirits

Lilac Essential Oil

Greetings from the ILS Preservation Committee!

-

by Josh Miller

You might recall that the ILS Preservation Committee asked in an article in the 2019 winter journal that all members aid us in our efforts to identify lilacs of great merit that are endangered, by reporting the lilacs housed in your private collections. We are happy to report that after that feature was published we were able to add data from 16 additional collections to our records, thanks to those ILS members that responded. This was a huge step forward in identifying which lilacs may be of concern of disappearing - but there is still more work to be done in this regard. Before the committee begins identifying lilacs that are truly considered endangered, we would like to ask again that if you have a significant collection of lilacs, that you let us know which you own, if you have not already. As a reminder, there is no risk in doing so and your information will be kept confidential. For those of you with unique lilacs in your collection, we cannot impress enough the value of sharing this data so that we have an accurate assessment of the number of lilacs of a particular cultivar that currently exist.

In addition, if you were kind enough to share collection information prior to the article being published, we ask that you send the committee an updated list this year. We know how collections can change (and grow!) so we want to be sure that our records are up-to-date.

This is an exciting time! The Committee is growing and with it, the capability to begin taking steps to preserve certain lilacs is becoming a reality. More news on that front soon! But before we do, the first step is to identify those lilacs in peril - and only you can help us do that!

Certification of Collections of *Syringa* L. Varieties and It's Significance for their Identification

-

by Irina Okuneva

Tsitsin Main Botanical Garden of Russian Academy of Sciences
Moscow, Russia

by Julia Khokhlacheva

Tsitsin Main Botanical Garden of Russian Academy of Sciences
Moscow, Russia

Abstract—Authentication of Syringa varieties is required in all major collections. The initial information left by the originators does not make it possible to uniquely identify the varietal affiliation of the samples. In most existing descriptions of varieties, even detailed ones, subjective categories are largely used. The most interesting for the study of intraspecific and intragenital variability, molecular genetic studies, introduction and selection work, as well as for practical gardening are varieties belonging to the *S. vulgaris* and *S.* × *hyacinthiflora*.

The aim of the study was to identify a set of constant morphological features that allow us to reliably distinguish and identify varieties of *S. vulgaris* and *S.* ×*hyacinthiflora*. On the basis of long-term observations of the collection of lilacs MBG RAS compiled a sample passport varieties of lilacs, which is an expanded detailed unified description. Of the selected features, 44 were the basis for "Methods of testing for distinctiveness, homogeneity and stability *SYRINGA* L.» № 12-06/32 from 02.08.2010, FSI State Commission of the Russian Federation for testing and protection of breeding achievements (RTG/1086/1).

Keywords – MBG RAS, collection fund, Syringa, varieties

I. INTRODUCTION

The genus *Syringa* L. includes more than 2300 ornamental intraspecific and interspecific cultivars, the diversity of which is very large. Lilac is in demand not only in horticulture, but also as an object for molecular genetic studies, which have both applied and theoretical significance [1-3]. It is important to study the possibilities of reproduction of lilacs by tissue culture [4]. It is obvious that the solution of these problems is possible only if the objects of research are genuine varieties.

Authentication of *Syringa* L. varietals is required in all major collections. For long-lasting tree crops, such as lilac, whose age is estimated in tens and hundreds of years, the exact definition of varietal belonging of samples is especially important, especially since the variety can be preserved as a single specimen. The initial information left by the originators does not make it possible to uniquely identify the varietal affiliation of the samples. In most existing descriptions of varieties, even detailed ones, subjective categories are largely used. At the same time, attention is paid mainly to the generative sphere, while vegetative signs are described in General words. Many varieties do not have detailed descriptions at all, but only a brief indication of the type of color and structure of the flower. Conventional photographs do not give a complete picture of the characteristics of varieties, because they do not carry sufficient information about the variations of individual characteristics over the years and during one growing season [5].The method of identification of *S. Vulgaris* varieties by the complex of morphological features of the Corolla structure developed in the SBU RAS [6] is the beginning of work on the preparation of a detailed unified description.

The most interesting for the study of intraspecific and intragenital variability, molecular genetic studies, introduction and selection work, as well as for practical gardening are varieties belonging to the common lilac (*S. vulgaris* L.) and related to it *S.* × *hyacinthiflora* Rehder. The latter is an interspecific hybrid *S. oblata* × *S. vulgaris*.

Expressed morphological differences in General terms of the structure of the varieties of these species do not have.

It is not always enough to rely on the morphology of the flower to distinguish varieties. It is also necessary to take into account other features that are not key to assess the decorative variety.

The purpose of the research was to identify a set of constant morphological features that allow to reliably distinguish and identify varieties *S. vulgaris* and *S.* × *hyacinthiflora.*

II. EXPERIMENTAL

The research was carried out on the basis of the lilac collection of GBS RAS from 1999 to 2018. A comparative morphological analysis of 160 varieties of S. vulgaris and 13 varieties of *S.* × *hyacinthiflora* were carried out. With the help of a digital camera and a scanner, identification images were obtained, which show flowers and buds in 10 main positions (repetitions from 6 to 30 depending on the characteristics of the variety); inflorescences in 4-5 main positions; shoots with leaves; shoots without leaves: leaves in 2 main positions (by the number of nodes on the shoot). Also, General (on vegetating plants) images of inflorescences and their fragments, bushes and their fragments in the amount necessary for adequate generalized visual perception of the variety/species were obtained.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

On the basis of long-term observations of the collection of lilacs MBG RAS compiled a sample passport varieties of lilacs, which is an expanded detailed unified description (tables I-V). The description must be accompanied by special identification images-photos reflecting the essential features of the variety.

TABLE I. VARIETY DESCRIPTION (PLANT AND SHOOT)

Indication	Degree of manifestation	Indication	Degree of manifestation
Plant: habitus	oblong	**Shoot**: strength	flexible
	obovate		average strength
	rounded		durable
	branchy		
Plant: bush height	stunted (less than 2 m)	**Shoot**: the length of the internodes	shortened
	average height (2-3 m)		normal (average)
	high (more than 3 M)		extended
Plant: density of crown	rare	**Shoot**: the color of bark	gray
	medium density		green
	thick		yellow
Shoot: shape	straight or slightly curved		brown
	arcuate		purplish brown
	winding		

TABLE II. VARIETY DESCRIPTION (BUD AND LEAF)

Indication	Degree of manifestation	Indication	Degree of manifestation
Bud (top pair): shape	rounded	**Leaf**: the nature of the departure of the petiole from the escape	at an acute angle to the axis
	pointed		perpendicular to the axis
Bud (top pair): color	green		bent down
	brown	**Leaf**: pubescence	is
	purplish brown		absents
Leaf: type	simple		
	complex	**Leaf**: color	yellow
Leaf: length	small (length without petiole less than 6 cm)		yellow-green
			light green
	medium (6-9 cm)		green
	large (over 9 cm)		dark green
Leaf: form of the leaf blade	lanceolate	**Leaf**: the character of color	evenly colored
	pointed-elliptical		motley
	pointy-egg-shaped	**Leaf**: anthocyanin color	missing or very weak
	ovate		presents
	cordate		present only on young leaf
Leaf: surface	smooth	**Leaf**: shine	matt
	wrinkled		brilliant
	wavy	**Leaf**: autumn coloring	green
Leaf: density	soft		yellow
	dense		purple
	rigid		brown
Leaf: venation	unobtrusive		other
	noticeable		
	strongly expressed		
Leaf: petiole length (relative to the length of the plate)	short	**Leaf**: the nature of autumn color	evenly colored spotted
	average		
	long		

TABLE III. VARIETY DESCRIPTION (INFLORESCENCE)

Indication	Degree of manifestation	Indication	Degree of manifestation
Inflorescence: location on the bush	open	**Inflorescence**: shape	cylindrical
	hidden in the leaves		pyramidal
Inflorescence: number of pairs of panicles on the shoot	one		ovate
	two	**Inflorescence**: branching	compact
	three or more		branched
	the maximum (number)		highly branched
Inflorescence: the presence of leaves	absent	**Inflorescence**: length of branches	short
	are		average length
Inflorescence: size (length)	short (less than 15 cm)		long
	average (15-25 cm)	**Inflorescence**: divergence angle of branches	very sharp
	long (over 25 cm)		about 45°
Inflorescence: position in space (strength)	erect		about 90°
	drooping	**Inflorescence**: number of flowers in the final brush	(number)
	hanging		
Inflorescence: density	openwork		
	loose		
	average density		
	dense		
	very dense		

TABLE IV. VARIETY DESCRIPTION (FLOWER)

Indication	Degree of manifestation	Indication	Degree of manifestation
Flower: size (diameter)	small (up to 1 cm)	**Flower**: the main color in the period of full flowering	white
	medium (1-2 cm)		purple
	large (2-3 cm)		bluish
	very large (over 3 cm)		lilac
Flower: the size of the Bud (diameter) to the beginning of the opening of the Corolla tube	small (less than 0.5 cm)		pinkish
	medium (0.5 cm)		reddish-purple
	large (more than 0.5 cm)		purple
Flower: the shape of a Bud	oblate		yellow
	rounded		cream
	oval	**Flower**: color Bud to the beginning of the opening of the Corolla tube	RHS Colour Chart (number)
	long		verbal description
Flower: type	simple (1 whisk with 4 LP)	**Flower**: the nature of the color of the Corolla tube bend	homogeneous
	polypetalous (1 whisk with the number of LP more than 4)		changing to the center of the Corolla
			varying in radius (striping)
			with a border on the edge
	half-double (1 full and 1 incomplete Corolla)	**Flower**: coloring of the upper side of the Corolla bend (only varieties with simple flowers)	RHS Colour Chart (number)
			verbal description
	terry (2-3 Corolla)	**Flower**: coloring of the lower side of the Corolla bend (only varieties with simple flowers)	RHS Colour Chart (number)
	strongly terry (more than 3 crowns)		verbal description
		Flower: the color of the center and/or borders of the upper side, different from the main (only varieties with heterogeneously colored flowers)	RHS Colour Chart (number)
			verbal description
Flower: tube curvature	absents	**Flower:** coloring of the upper side of the bend of the full Corolla (only varieties with semi-double flowers)	RHS Colour Chart (number)
	is		verbal description
Flower: length of Corolla tube to bend	short (less than the diameter of the Corolla)	**Flower:** coloring of the lower side of the bend of the full Corolla (only varieties with semi-double flowers)	RHS Colour Chart (number)
			verbal description
	average (equal to the diameter of the Corolla)	**Flower:** painting the upper side of the bend of the last full inner Corolla (only varieties with double flowers)	RHS Colour Chart (number)
			verbal description
	long (larger than the diameter of the rim	**Flower:** coloring of the upper side of the bend of the last full inner Corolla (only varieties with double flowers)	RHS Colour Chart (number)
			verbal descriptio
Flower: the shape of the Corolla limb	lanceolate	**Flower:** coloring of the lower side of the bend of the last full inner Corolla (only varieties with double flowers)	RHS Colour Chart (number)
	elliptic		verbal description
	ovate	**Flower:** color of the visible side of the incomplete inner Corolla (only varieties with semi-double and double flowers)	RHS Colour Chart (number)
	obovate		verbal description
Flower: shape of the tip of the Corolla bend	rounded	**Flower:** change of color when fading	lightens
	squeezed		does not change
	pointed		darkens
	with a beak-like tip		
Flower: position of Corolla bends	flat	**Flower:** stamens-location of anthers relative to the throat of the Corolla	inside the Corolla tube
	concave		at the level of the throat of the Corolla
	refused		noticeably above the throat of the Corolla
	deflected	**Flower:** stamens, color of anthers	purple
	asymmetric		yellow
Only semi-double and double flowers: **Flower**: the mutual arrangement of the Corolla	closely spaced		other (specify which)
	slightly parted	**Flower**: fragrance	missing or very weak
	move apart		weak
	very spread		average
	the center is closed		strong
Only semi-double and double flowers: **Flower**: he location of the bends of the inner Corolla	the center is open	**Flower**: type of fragrance	characteristic of S. vulgaris
			specific
			verbal description

TABLE V. VARIETY DESCRIPTION (FLOWERING AND FRUCTIFICATION)

Indication	Degree of manifestation
Flowering: start time	early
	average
	later
	start date (average)
Flowering: duration	short
	average duration
	long
	number of days (average)
Flowering: profusion	weak
	average
	abundant
Flowering: the frequency (abundance)	not annual
	annual
Fructification	absents
	weak
	normal

Of the selected features, 44 were the basis for "Methods of testing for distinctiveness, homogeneity and stability SYRINGA L.» № 12-06/32 from 02.08.2010, FSI State Commission of the Russian Federation for testing and protection of breeding achievements (RTG/1086/1).

IV. CONCLUSION

The proposed scheme of morphological description contains a sufficient number of positions that allow with a certain degree of reliability to distinguish varieties of lilac even in the non- flowering state, which is important for its reproduction, including micro-clonal. Classical morphological analysis should precede the study of lilac varieties at the molecular level in order to minimize the probability of erroneous determination of the variety sample taken for the study. It is also important in the selection of samples for mass reproduction of tissue culture. A comprehensive approach to certification of lilac varieties, including morphological and molecular genetic methods, is able to provide reliable identification of varieties. Certification of varieties in lilac collections will increase the reliability of preserving the genetic diversity of the genus in vivo and in vitro, increase the efficiency of research and breeding work.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The work was carried out in accordance to Institutional research project № 18-118021490111-5

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In Memorium
Robert E. Hoepfl(1942 – 2020)
-
By Kent Millham

On Saturday, May 9, 2020, the International Lilac Society lost one of its most beloved members. Bob has been an active member of ILS for nearly 49 years, and was at the 1972 meeting in Rochester, NY, USA at Highland Park.

Bob first began learning about lilacs directly out of high school in the early 1960's, working summers at Highland Park, home of one of the world's largest lilac collections. After obtaining a degree from Farmingdale Agricultural and Technical College in horticultural studies, Mr. Hoepfl began working full-time at Highland Park under the tutelage of Richard A. Fenicchia, another ILS great, learning about propagation and hybridization of lilacs, rhododendrons, and many other ornamental plants. As his career progressed, he later became Park Supervisor of Highland Park, and was directly responsible for the maintenance of the world-famous arboretum.

'Marcie Merlot'
Photo by Donna Hoepfl-Hayes

When Richard Fenicchia retired in 1978, Mr. Hoepfl succeeded him as the new Superintendent of Horticulture for the Monroe County Parks. He would hold this title for the next 18 years. While Superintendent of Horticulture, Bob oversaw many important capital improvement projects at Highland Botanical Park, including the renovation of the Lamberton Conservatory, and the development of Highland Park South; which includes the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, AIDS Remembrance Garden, and Lilac Festival area, as well as other specimen plantings.

While working with Richard Fenicchia, Bob learned the art of hybridizing lilacs, and he decided to use 'Flower City' as a female parent for his hybrids. He began this while working at Highland Park, and continued in his retirement. Bob has named and registered a number of these "FC hybrids", which include 'Highland Park', a beautiful single blue; 'Marcie Merlot', a semi-dwarf lilac with single purple florets; 'Tuesday', a hose-in-hose double with purple-violet florets; 'Square Deal', a double purple/violet; and 'Midnight Sun'; a single violet.

As a member of the ILS for nearly 49 years, Bob was an active participant, and held a number of important positions. From 1998 to 2000, Mr. Hoepfl was the Executive Vice-President. He then succeeded John Carvill as ILS President; a position he held from 2000 to 2004. Then following that, he was the Honor and Awards Committee Chairman from 2004 to 2009. Also, Bob and his wife Marcia organized the last ILS meeting in Rochester, NY in 2001.

Bob had a wealth of information about lilacs and other woody plants, and was eager to share it with other plant enthusiasts. He was well-known for his good sense of humor, and was an ambassador for ILS and Highland Park. He will be missed by all, and I will personally miss seeing him at lilac time walking through the lilac collection, and discussing lilacs with him and reminiscing about old times.

Bob is survived by his wife Marcia, and their children, grandchildren, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, and nieces, cousins and friends.

NOTE CARDS

The ILS is selling a set of note cards featuring the artwork by longtime member, Jane Barnes. Jane's watercolors of St. Margaret and President Grevy lilacs are beautifully captured on these note cards. These 4 x 6 cards (blank inside) are being sold in a pack of 6 (envelopes included) for $12.00 (includes postage).

Printing of the cards was graciously donated by two board members so all proceeds benefit the International Lilac Society.

To order, please contact:

Nicole Jordan: Njordan236@aol.com

(804) 337-1351

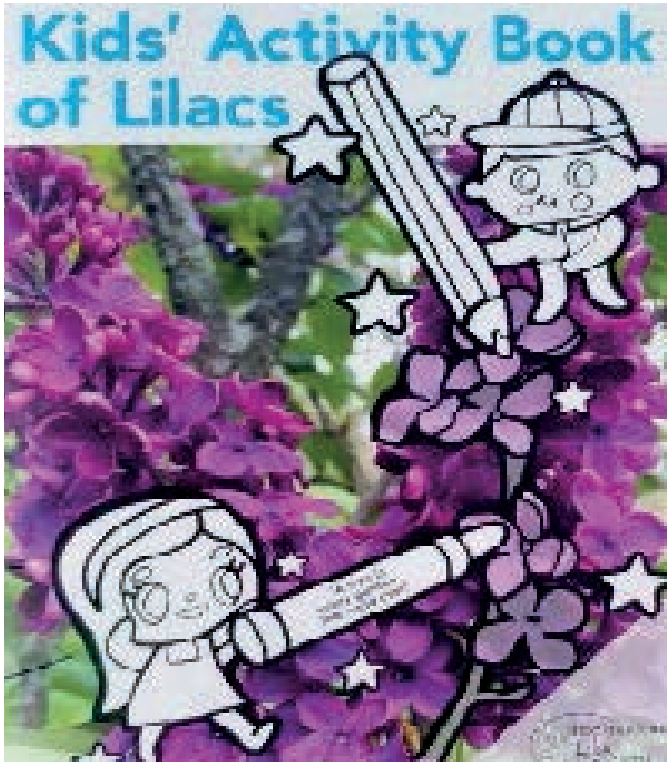
ILS ACTIVITY BOOKS

A reminder to all ILS members who work with children that coloring books are still available. The idea behind the book is to use it as an educational and promotional tool for the society, encouraging children to get involved, generate awareness of the society and ultimately increase our membership.

To help offset the price of producing and shipping the book, we are asking for a minimum donation of $1.00 per copy. If you would like to order more than 10 copies the price will be $.50 each. Members residing outside the US and Canada will need to contact Karen McCauley for pricing.

To order please email or call:

Karen McCauley, Treasurer
mccauleytk@aol.com
952.443.3703



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