2025 Lilac Descriptions by Color

For explanation of color/flower class, see bottom of this list.

1

COLOR: WHITE

Syringa Vulgaris Common White Height and width: 12-15' tall, 8-12' wide Habit: Deciduous, upright Originated By: Native to Balkans/SE Europe Foliage: Blue/Green Color Class/Flowers: I/S, White Bloom Time: Midseason Notable Information: Hardy, vigorous white version of the "old fashioned lilac". This is perfect for an informal hedge or screen. Blue-green fall foliage.
Syringa vulgaris 'Krasav <u>it</u> sa Moskvy' Zones: 3-7 Height and width: 10-12' tall and 8' wide Originated by: Leonid A. Kolesnikov 1947 Habit: Deciduous, upright Foliage: Green Color Class/Flowers: I/D Bloom Time: Midseason Notable Information: Name is Russian for trade designation: BEAUTY OF MOSCOW. Cultivar name registered 1970'; cultivar name established and accepted. Forcing lilac in Netherlands. Pinkish lilac buds open to very pale lavender tint on white. Abundant panicles on a vigorous plant. It is stunning in bloom. Insignificant fall foliage.

COLOR: BLUE

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Syringa vulgaris 'Président Grévy' Zones: 3-7 Height and width: 10-12' tall and 8' wide Originated by: Lemoine Nursery1886 Habit: Deciduous, upright Foliage: Green Color Class/Flowers: III/D, blue Bloom Time: Midseason Notable Information: Named for Francois Paul Jules Grévy (1807-1891), French statesman, president of France (1879-1887). Royal Horticultural Society Award of Merit 1892. This vigorous, upright grower produces immense panicles of starry, double lilac-blue florets. Insignificant fall foliage. Cultivar presumed registered 1953; name established and accepted.
Syringa vulgaris 'President Lincoln' Zones: 3-7 Height and width: 8-10' tall and 10' wide Originated by: John Dunbar 1916 Habit: Deciduous, upright Foliage: Rich green Color Class/Flowers: III/S, blue Bloom Time: Midseason Notable Information: Named for Abraham Lincoln (1809-1865), 16th president of the USA. An open-pollinated seedling of the old 'Alba Virginalis' (pre-1841). Medium blue, tall, leafy grower with large trusses and captivating fragrance. This mildew resistant French hybrid is a good grower that produces basal shoots readily. Small tubular flowers grow in large, dense conical-shaped clusters. Cultivar name presumed registered 1953; name established and accepted.

COLOR: MAGENTA-PURPLE

<i>Syringa xhyacinthiflora</i> ' Declaration' Zones: 4-7
 Height and width: 6-8' tall and 6-7' spread Originated by: Egolf & Pooler 2006 Habit: Deciduous, upright, rounded Foliage: Green Color Class/Flowers: VI-VII/S, magenta purple Bloom Time: Early Fragrant Notable Information: The name refers to the U. S. Declaration of Independence, 4 July 1776. While similar to 'Old Glory', the cultivar does not have red- and purple-tinged leaves. Cultivar name registered 2007; name established and accepted.

COLOR: PINK

Syringa (Pubescents Series) 'Bailbelle' Zones: 3-7 Height and width: 5-6 'tall and 4-5' spread Originated by: Neal S. Holland, pre 1999 Habit: Deciduous, upright, rounded Foliage: Green Color Class/Flowers: V/S, pinkish Bloom Time: Late Fragrant
Notable Information: First introduction in Bailey's FAIRYTALE SERIES [™] . Marketed as TINKERBELLE [®] . In late spring luscious wine-red flower buds open into deep pink blossoms with a pleasing, spicy fragrance. Name established and accepted. Statutory registration.
Syringa pubescens subsp. patula 'Pink Flower Select' Zones 3-8 Height and width: 4-5' tall and 4-5'wide (dwarf) Cultivated by: Yanny Habit: Deciduous, rounded, dense Foliage: Dark Green Color Class/Flowers: V/S, Pink Bloom Time: Early Summer
Notable Information: Marketed in the US as DREAM CLOUD [™] . Terrific dwarf form for foundation use or grouped to form a showy hedge. Very hardy disease resistant foliage. Very fragrant bloom. Rich, purple fall foliage. Cultivar name established.

Color: PINKISH PURPLE

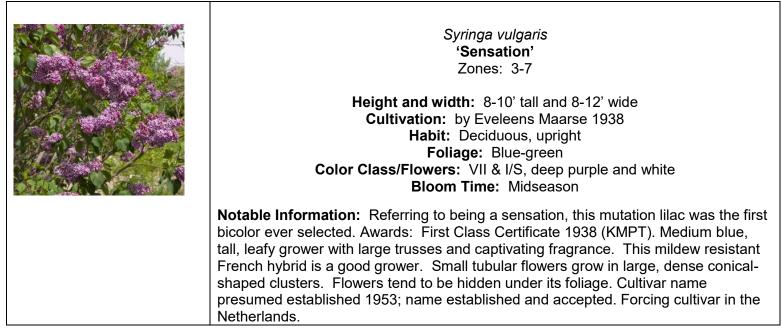
Syringa pubescens, subsp pubescens 'Palibin' Zones: 3-7 Height and width: 4-5' tall and 6-8' spread Originated by: Unknown, pre 1908 Habit: Deciduous, compact, low spreading Foliage: Dark green, small, glossy Color Class/Flowers: V-VII/S, pinkish purple Bloom Time: Midseason
Notable Information: Named for Ivan Vladimirovich Palibin, 1872-1949, Russian botanist. Awards: RHS Award of Merit 1984; RHS Award of Merit 1983. A small-leaved lilac, bearing many panicles of purple flowers at an early age. Reddishbronze fall foliage. Excellent low growing hedge. Cultivar name registered 1980; name established and accepted.
Syringa xchinensis 'Saugeana' Zones: 3-7 Height and width: 10-12' tall and 5-10' spread Originated by: Pierre Saugé, circa 1820 Habit: Deciduous, broad spreading, round top Foliage: Green Color Class/Flowers: V-VII/S, pinkish purple Bloom Time: Midseason Fragrant Notable information: Named for the originator, Pierre Saugé, 1757-1835, florist, 1807-1835, at 13 rue de la Santé, Paris, France. Most likely named by Jacques Varin, head of the Jardin des plantes at Rouen, the garden where S. ×chinensis originated. Cultivar name presumed registered 1953; name established and accepted.
Syringa Meyeri Dwarf Korean Lilac - Tree Form Zones 4-7 Height and width: 8' tall x 5-6" wide (dwarf) Cultivated by: Unknown Habit: Deciduous, rounded Foliage: Deep Green, small, glossy Color Class/Flowers: V-VII/S, pinkish purple Bloom Time: Midseason Notable Information: This tree form has the same fine features of the shrub-form Dwarf Korean. It makes an excellent globe for accent or interest in the landscape. This cultivar is grafted on a 3' or 4' standard.

COLOR: PURPLE

Syringa vulgaris Common Purple Zones: 4-7 Height and width: 12-15' tall and 8-12' spread Originated by: Native to Balkans, SE Europe Habit: Deciduous, upright, vase-shaped Foliage: Blue Green Color Class/Flowers: VII/S, purple Bloom Time: Midseason Notable Information: Extremely fragrant. This is perfect for an informal hedge or screen. Also known as the "old-fashioned" lilac. Blue-green fall foliage.
Syringa vulgaris 'Charles Joly' Zones: 3-7 Height and width: 10-12' tall, 6-8' wide Habit: Deciduous, upright Originated by: Lemoine Nursery, 1896 Foliage: Green Color Class/Flowers: VII/D Purple Bloom Time: Midseason Notable Information: Named for Victor Charles Joly, 1818-1902, French physician, hotelier, and writer on horticultural subjects. Awards: RHS Award of Garden Merit 1993. Cultivar name presumed registered 1953; name established and accepted.
 Syringa (Villosae Group) S. ×prestoniae 'Donald Wyman' Zones: 4-7 Height and width: 8-10' tall and 4-10' spread Originated by: Frank L. Skinner 1944 Habit: Deciduous, upright, dense Foliage: Dark Green Color Class/Flowers: VII/S, purple Bloom Time: Late Notable Information: Panicles of purple buds opening to single, purple flowers. Blooms on large pyramidal spikes later than Common Lilac. Excellent specimen or hedge plant. Spicy scent. Insignificant fall foliage. Named for Donald Wyman (1904-1970), horticulturist of the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University (1935-1970) Jamaica Plain, MA. Cultivar presumed registered 1953; name established and accepted.

	<i>Syringa vulgaris</i> 'Yankee Doodle' Zones: 3-7
	Height and width: 8' tall and 8' wide (semi-dwarf)
A CONTRACTOR OF THE OWNER	Originated by: John L. Fiala 1985
ALLA BAD	Habit: Deciduous, upright
States Anna States	Foliage: Green
	Color Class/Flowers: VII/S, dark purple
	Bloom Time: Midseason
	Notable Information: Named for a popular song of the American Revolution era, 1770-1782. One of the deepest and darkest of the purple; profuse bloomer with large clusters of single, very large flowers. Insignificant fall foliage. Name established and accepted.

COLOR: PURPLE and WHITE



COLOR: VIOLET



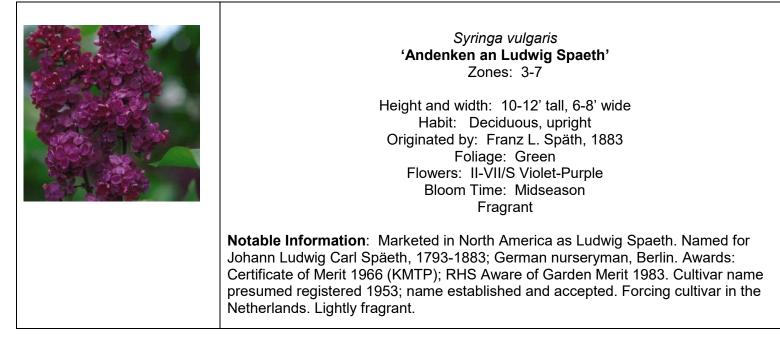
Syringa x hyacinthiflora **'Bailbridget''** Zones: 3-7

Height and width: 6-8' tall, 5-7' wide Habit: Deciduous, upright
Originated by: Don Sellinger 2007 Folliage: Violet-Green
Color Class/Flowers: II/D Violet Bloom Time: Late

Notable Information: Marketed in the US by Bailey Nurseries as VIRTUAL VIOLET®. Shiny new violet leaves turn to emerald green on purple stems. Violet flowers emerge from deep fuschia buds on the end of stems and keep color well into summer. Fragrant. Cultivar name established and accepted.

Syringa (Pubescentes Series) 'Jeflady' Zones: 2-7 Height and width: 4-5' tall, 4-5' wide Habit: Deciduous, rounded Originated by: Durand & Donald,2016 Folliage: Green Color Class/Flowers: S II, Violet Bloom Time: Midseason
 Notable Information: syn - LITTLE LADY™. Dark pink buds open to violet flowers. Very Fragrant. Cultivar name established and accepted.
Syringa ×hyacinthiflora 'Pocahontas' Zones: 2-7 Height and width: 10-12' tall and 10-12' wide Originated by: Frank L. Skinner 1935 Habit: Deciduous, upright Foliage: Dark green Color Class/Flowers: II/S, violet Bloom Time: Early
Notable Information : Deep maroon-purple buds open to single deep violet florets. A profuse bloomer, covering plant with purple blossoms in spring before French hybrid lilacs. Noted for exceptional hardiness and vigor Very fragrant. Insignificant fall foliage. Named for Pocahontas (ca 1595-1617), an Indian princess, daughter of Powhatan, chief of the Algonquian Indians in the Tidewater region of Virginia, USA. Cultivar name presumed registered 1953; Name established and accepted. Forcing cultivar in the Netherlands.

COLOR: VIOLET-PURPLE



1953 Wister Color Code

ABBREVIATIONS: S - Single (simple) flowers D - Double flowers

COLORS	
1	White
11	Violet
111	Blue & Bluish
IV	Lilac
V	Pink & Pinkish
VI	Magenta
VII	Purple

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

/ - for color 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