States, found in 1915 quantities of a Lilac covering hillsides in Kansu. Plants raised from seeds of this Lilac have flowered and proved identical with the lobed leaf form of *Syringa persica* and as the plants have grown stronger they produce branches with the entire leaves of the type of the species. Since 1915 the Arboretum has also received dried specimens of this Lilac collected in Kansu. As a specimen of a wild plant from Persia is not to be found in the large European herbaria, there is every reason to believe that the Persian Lilac is a Chinese plant, brought from China to western Asia and Europe just as the Peach and other Chinese plants found their way westward.

Fifty years ago the species of *Syringa* known in this country were *Syringa vulgaris*, *S. persica*, the Hungarian *S. Josikaea*, the Himalayan *S. Emodii*, and the Chinese *S. oblata* and *S. amurensis*, and two hybrids. Now there are twenty-seven species growing here with a few varieties and nearly all the known hybrids. In addition to these are a few species or perhaps forms which have been described by botanists but not yet introduced into cultivation. Of the twenty-seven species now in this country, twenty-two have been introduced by the Arboretum. Among these Arboretum introductions there are several beautiful and important garden plants. Among them for many persons the best is

***Syringa pubescens*.** This is a tall shrub with erect stems, small leaves and broad clusters of small, pale mauve flowers with a long slender corolla-tube. For their fragrance which is more pungent and delightful than that of the flower of any other Lilac, *Syringa pubescens* should find a place in every northern garden. Plants in the United States have failed to produce seeds and as this species has proved unusually difficult to increase by cuttings, it has remained one of the rarest Lilacs in American gardens. It can, of course, be increased by grafting and sooner or later fertile seeds will be found on some of the large plants growing in the Arboretum. *Syringa pubescens* has been growing in the Arboretum since 1883 where it was raised from seeds sent here by Dr. Bretschneider from Peking.

Syringa villosa is another first rate garden plant for which the United States is also indebted to Dr. Bretschneider. It is a large, round-topped bush from ten to twelve feet tall and wide, with large, broad, elliptic to oblong leaves, bright green and dull on the upper surface and pale below, a broad or narrow cluster of flesh colored or nearly white flowers which have the rather disagreeable odor of those of the Privet. In spite of this drawback *S. villosa* is a good garden plant; the habit is excellent; it flowers freely every year and the flowers do not open until those of most other Lilacs have faded.

Syringa Sweginzowii is a native of northwestern China and came to the Arboretum by the way of St. Petersburg. It is a narrow shrub with slender erect branches, narrow leaves and long narrow clusters of slightly fragrant flowers, flesh-colored in the bud and becoming white after opening, with a long slender corolla tube. The relationship of this Lilac which flowers profusely every year, is with *S. pubescens* but it is a smaller plant blooming ten or twelve days later and the flowers are much less fragrant. As it grows in the Arboretum, *S. Sweginzowii* is one of the handsomest of the Lilacs of recent introduction.

1923. "Syringa pubescens." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 9(5), 19–19. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321336>.

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