Syringa Julianae, one of Wilson's discoveries in western China, is another plant which deserves a permanent place in American gardens. It is also of the same group as *S. pubescens* with the same shaped flowers with the long corolla tube, but they are arranged in a short broad cluster and are much less fragrant. Their beauty is increased by the contrast between the violet-purple of the outer surface of the corolla and the white inner surface of its lobes.

Syringa tomentella, or as it has sometimes been called *S. Wilsonii*, another of Wilson's Chinese discoveries, is a tall fast growing, hardy shrub with slender arching stems forming an open broad head. The leaves resemble those of *S. villosa* and the flowers which are produced in large open clusters are of the palest rose-color with a long slender corolla-tube.

Syringa microphylla, although by no means one of the handsomest of the new Lilacs, is interesting because it blooms every year in October as well as in June. It is a native of north-central China and is a narrow shrub with slender erect stems and small leaves and small pale rose-colored flowers in small narrow clusters.

Syringa reflexa which resembles *S. villosa* in habit and foliage differs from all other Lilacs in its narrow, cylindric, pendent clusters of dark rose-colored flowers. It is a native of western China where it was discovered by Wilson. It is a hardy, vigorous fast growing shrub which promises to grow here to a large size. As a garden plant it is chiefly valuable for the unusual shape of its drooping flower-clusters.

It is too soon to speak of the value of the recently introduced Korean species, *S. velutina*, *S. dilitata* and *S. formosissima*, which are perfectly hardy in the Arboretum and have already flowered sparingly in the Arboretum.

A Hybrid Lilac. The first hybrid Lilac appeared in the Botanic Garden at Rouen in 1810, and was the result of the crossing of *Syringa vulgaris* and *S. persica*. It is one of the most valuable of Lilacs. It grows quickly into a bush ten or twelve feet high and broad of rather open habit, and is very hardy and blooms freely every year. In shape the leaves resemble those of the Persian Lilac but are broader. The flowers, too, resemble those of the Persian Lilac, but are longer and produced in massive clusters sometimes two feet in length and so heavy that the slender branches can barely support them. The flowers are reddish purple and there are forms with darker red flowers and with nearly white flowers. This Lilac has often been called *Syringa rothomagensis*, but unfortunately through a misunderstanding of its origin the oldest and correct name for it is *Syringa chinensis*.

Early Azaleas. The pink flowered *Rhododendron Vaseyi* from the Carolina Blue Ridge is now blooming near the Meadow Road, and the Japanese *R. Kaempferi* now makes a blaze of color on the southern slope of Bussey Hill.

1923. "Syringa tomentella." *Bulletin of popular information - Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University* 9(5), 20–20. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321340>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/239239>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.321340>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/321340>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries

Sponsored by

Biodiversity Heritage Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

Rights Holder: Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.