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Hybrid Lilacs. In the last issue of these Bulletins an account was given of *Syringa chinensis*, the first hybrid Lilac of which there is a record. The next hybrid of which there is a history, *Syringa hyacinthiflora*, was made by Lemoine of Nancy in 1859 by crossing *S. oblata* with *S. vulgaris coerulea plena* the first of the double-flowering forms of the common *Syringa vulgaris*. *S. oblata*, the first of the Chinese Lilacs with the exception of *Syringa persica* to reach Europe from China was found probably in a Shanghai garden by Fortune and sent by him to England in 1852; from England it reached the United States as early as 1869 and perhaps earlier. It is a large, round-topped shrub, with broad, heart-shaped leaves which unlike those of other Lilacs are thick and coriaceous and in the autumn turn scarlet. It is one of the first Lilacs to bloom in the spring here and the large violet-colored flowers in comparatively small clusters are extremely fragrant. In severe winters the flower-buds are sometimes injured. It is interesting that this handsome plant has not yet been found growing wild; and there is no record here that it has been seen by anyone in China since Fortune's time. The first flowers of the hybrid *Syringa hyacinthiflora* opened this year on May 2 and were still in good condition on May 20th. It is a large, round-topped shrub of excellent habit, with leaves resembling in shape those of *S. oblata* but not thicker than those of the common Lilac, and small clusters of small semi-double, extremely fragrant flowers. Interesting from its origin *S. hyacinthiflora* is the least valuable of the hybrid Lilacs as a garden plant. The fact, however, is interesting that it is usually the first Lilac to flower in the Arboretum collection.

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