

# 'Legacy' late lilac

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Plant Materials Center, Bismarck, North Dakota



**'Legacy' late lilac**  
*Syringa villosa*

## Potential Uses

- Field windbreaks
- Multi-row farmstead windbreaks
- Wildlife habitat plantings
- Recreational site plantings

## Plant Description

- A non-suckering shrub with dense upright habit
- Plant height varies from 7-14 feet after 15 years depending on site, moisture, and weed control
- Flowers borne in dense panicles, May-June
- Florets are pink, fading to white
- Fruit is a capsule containing 4 seeds
- Leaves are simple, opposite, and deeply veined
- Leaves are pubescent along leaf veins
- Does not volunteer in older plantings
- Flowers later than common lilac

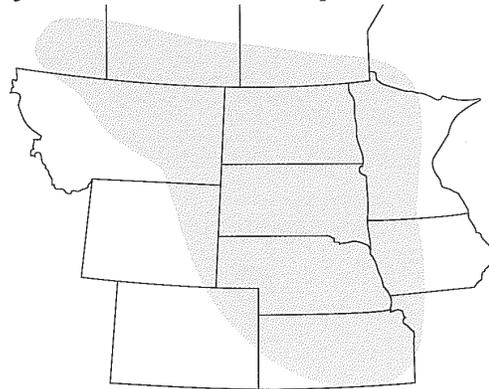
## Origin

- Native to northern China
- Brought to the United States in the 1880s
- Legacy first selected in 1956
- Collected at the Morden Arboretum in Manitoba, Canada

## Adaptation

- Tolerates hardiness zones 2-5
- NRCS Conservation Tree and Shrub Groups/ Windbreak Suitability Groups 1, 3, 4
- Not recommended for droughty or salines soils
- Grows best on loams, silt loams, and silty clay loams
- 14-30 inch precipitation zone
- States showing best adaptation include North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas

## Projected Area of Adaptation



## Culture

- Plant seedlings (1-3 feet tall) in the spring
- Spacing should be 3-4 feet apart
- Severe drought may cause die-back
- Pruning should be done after flowering
- May be cut to ground to rejuvenate
- Weed control improves survival and growth rates
- Mildew problems may occur in higher precipitation zones

## Propagation

- Legacy is a seed propagated cultivar
- Seed ripens in a capsule by late summer
- Harvest seed in mid to late September
- Capsules may be air dried for 1-2 months
- Seed may be cleaned using hammer-mill and fanning mill
- Approximately 41,000 seeds/lb
- Seed requires 45-60 days of cold stratification
- Seed may be fall planted
- Seedlings require 2 years of growth to reach the size needed for conservation plantings



## Availability

### Breeder's Seed:

USDA-NRCS, Plant Materials Center  
3308 University Drive  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58504

### Seedlings:

Contact your local NRCS Field Office or conservation nursery

## Release Agencies

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station  
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station  
South Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

## Other Cooperative Tree & Shrub Releases

'Midwest' Manchurian crabapple  
'Cardan' green ash  
'Oahe' hackberry  
'Sakakawea' silver buffaloberry  
'Centennial' cotoneaster  
'McDermid' Ussurian pear  
'Homestead' Arnold hawthorn  
'Regal' Russian almond  
Survivor germplasm false indigo  
Silver Sands germplasm sandbar willow  
'Prairie Red' hybrid plum  
'McKenzie' black chokeberry

**For more information, contact:**  
**USDA-NRCS Plant Materials Center**  
**3308 University Drive**  
**Bismarck, ND 58504**  
**Phone: (701) 250-4330**  
**Fax: (701) 250-4334**  
**or**  
**Plant Materials Specialist**  
**USDA-NRCS**  
**P.O. Box 1458**  
**Bismarck, ND 58502**  
**Phone: (701)530-2075**

<http://Plant-Materials.nrcs.usda.gov>

"The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex, marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal, or because all or a part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD). To file a complaint of discrimination write to USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410 or call (800) 795-3272 (voice) or (202) 720-6382 (TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer."

revised January 2009

