

## **RESULTS OF EVALUATION OF *SYRINGA VULGARIS* L. AND *SYRINGA* × *HYACINTHIFLORA* REHD. IN THE FOOTHILL ZONE OF CRIMEA**

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One of the main tasks of introduction of decorative plants which is taken in botanical gardens is identification the most promising species, forms and varieties for implantation in practice of green building.

Lilac belongs to the most popular, highly decorative flowering bushes. For several centuries it is cultivated in temperate latitudes of Eurasia and North America. Currently there are more than 2,300 varieties described, most of them are cultivars of common lilac. Modern collection of lilac of Botanical Garden of Taurida National V.I. Vernadsky University includes 7 species, 4 subspecies, one form, one variation and 57 varieties of foreign and national selection.

The purpose of this work is to identify varieties with high decorative and economically-biological traits among introduction of varieties of common lilac and hyacinthiflora lilac and form an assortment of promising varieties for use in a mass planting in the Foothill zone of Crimea.

Evaluation of assortment of lilac was held from 2012 to 2014. The subjects of research were 41 varieties of common lilac and 2 varieties of hyacinthiflora lilac from the collection of the Botanical Garden.

In order to determine the merits of decorative plants the methods of evaluation of varieties and variety testing of decorative plants were used. Also we have developed a 100-point scale integrated assessment of decorative and economically-biological traits. The scale includes 12 main traits that characterize decorative qualities of the flower, inflorescence and the plant in general. There are flower size, quality inflorescences (tight, loose), the size of inflorescences, shape of inflorescences, inflorescences location (open, foliage), the overall effect, duration of flowering, flavor, originality, comparative susceptibility of diseases and pests, flowering.

Studies have shown that in general, all varieties of common lilac and hyacinthiflora lilac from the collection of the Botanical Garden of Taurida National V.I. Vernadsky University successfully passed the period of adaptation to soil and climatic conditions of the Foothill zone of Crimea and fully display their decorative qualities.

As a result of evaluation of varieties 5 unpromising, 23 average promising and 15 highly promising varieties were found. 'Zhemchuzhina', 'Katherine Havemeyer',

‘Marshal Foch’, ‘Zoja Kosmodem’janskaya’, ‘Capitaine Baltet’, ‘Lesja Ukrainka’, ‘Ludwig Spath’, ‘Sovetskaya Arktika’, ‘Mishel Buchner’, ‘Taras Bulba’, ‘M-me Lemoine’, ‘Charles Joly’, ‘Mont Blanc’, ‘Indiya’, ‘M-me Antoine Buchner’ are highly promising varieties. Highly promising and average promising varieties are recommended for use in planting of Crimea.

**Keywords:** lilac, variety, decorative features, plant introduction, variety testing.

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