‘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

**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
- ‘McDermand’ Ussurian pear
- ‘Homestead’ Arnold hawthorn
- ‘Regal’ Russian almond
- Survivor germplasm false indigo
- Silver Sands germplasm sandbar willow
- ‘Prairie Red’ hybrid plum
- ‘McKenzie’ black chokeberry

**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

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**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


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