

# **Common lilac**

## Syringa vulgaris

## Description

Used as farmstead windbreaks. Introduced as an ornamental.

#### Habit

Medium to large hardy shrub with stout, oval or irregular rounded crown; shallow - dense root system.

#### Leaves

Opposite, green to brownish-purple with 3 pairs of scales; sessile, subglobose, large, 1/4-1/2 in long, 1 1/2-3 1/2 in wide, simple, cordate, entire, smooth margins, smooth and leathery surface.

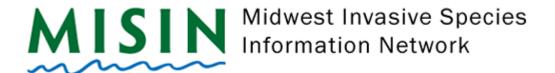
#### **Stems**

Stout; angled (almost 4 sided) or ridged; lustrous brown; glabrous; numerous raised lenticels; leaf scars raised.

#### **Flowers**

Fragrant, borne in large terminal panicles (4-8 in long), showy, singles and doubles, white to





purple in color.

#### **Fruits and Seeds**

Fruit is a woody capsule, brown in color, flat tannish seeds.

#### Habitat

Native to Europe. Grows well in a wide array of soils.

## Reproduction

Cuttings and by seeds.

#### Similar

Japanese tree lilac (Syringa reticulata).

### **Monitoring and Rapid Response**

Landscape fabric; tearing of plant suckers; digging, making sure to completely remove the root system; effectively controlled by any of the several readily available general use herbicides such as glyphosate or naphthaleneacetate.

#### **Credits**

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