

CHICAGOLAND GROWS[®], INC.

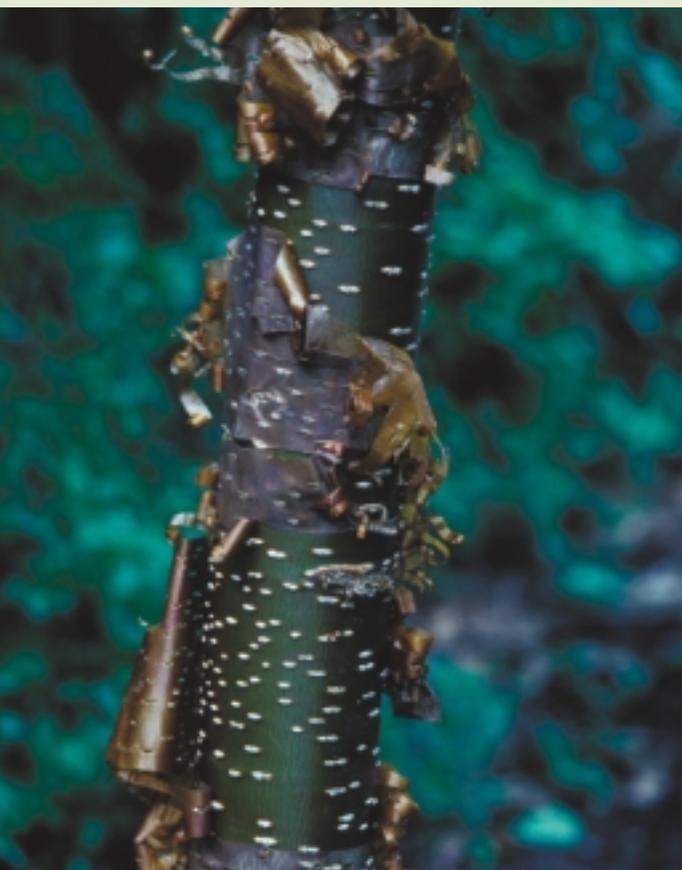
Plant Introduction Program - Plant Release Bulletin #14



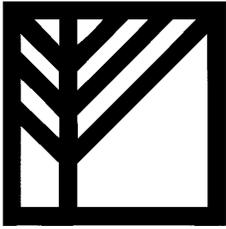
China Snow[®] Peking Lilac

Syringa pekinensis 'Morton'

Strikingly ornamental, amber-colored exfoliating bark allows this medium-sized flowering tree to have many seasons of interest.



Chicagoland Grows[®] is a nonprofit corporation of the Chicago Botanic Garden, The Morton Arboretum and the Ornamental Growers Association of Northern Illinois (OGA).



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Botanical Name

Syringa pekinensis 'Morton'

Common Name

China Snow® Peking Lilac

Family

Oleaceae

Origin

This plant, selected from the collections of The Morton Arboretum, was grown from seed collected for The Arnold Arboretum by Joseph Rock in 1926 in Gansu province, China. The seed was shared with The Morton Arboretum that same year.

Hardiness

U.S.D.A. Zones 5-7

General Description and Habit

This tree lilac was selected for its amber-colored exfoliating bark, fragrant late spring blooms and graceful rounded habit. The parent tree measures 45' tall with a 40' spread after 75 years of growth.

Size

5-year size: 12' tall by 8' wide

20-year size: 25' tall by 20' wide

Growth Rate

Medium

Ornamental Characteristics

This medium-sized flowering tree has multiple seasons of interest because of its highly ornamental, amber-colored exfoliating bark. Deep green, semi-glossy foliage is followed by large, creamy-white fragrant blooms in mid-June. The blooms mature to grass green fruits that turn a nice tan color and persist well into the winter months. China Snow exhibits a display of exfoliating bark comparable to *Acer griseum*.

Culture

Once established, China Snow can tolerate drought. Our trials have proven this selection is very tolerant of de-icing salt, but intolerant of poorly drained soils. Plant this tree in full sun or partial shade for best bloom production.

Pest and Disease Problems

None known.

Landscape Value

China Snow can be used successfully in urban street plantings, especially on parkways where the crown can spread. Use this plant in urban, residential and commercial plantings as a single or multi-stemmed plant to accentuate the exfoliating bark.

Propagation

Tissue culture and grafting.

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The Chicagoland Grows® Plant Introduction program is dedicated to the evaluation, selection, production and marketing of recommended and new plant cultivars. Plants selected for the program have proven to be adaptable to the Midwest and are made available to the commercial and retail landscape industry through an international network of growers and propagators.

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The
Morton
Arboretum



For more information about Chicagoland Grows®, contact:
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