Common Purple Lilac

_Syringa vulgaris_
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**General:** A non-native garden shrub brought to Canada from Europe, it can grow up to 4 m high and 7 m wide.

**Leaves & Twigs:** Heart-shaped leaves are smooth and appear before the flowers bloom.

**Flowers & Fruit:** Small fragrant flowers can vary in colour and grow in clusters 10–20 cm long. The colour of the flowers can vary from cream to dark purple.

**Habitat:** Lilac bushes grow well in garden and park settings throughout Newfoundland and southern Labrador.

**Blooming Time:** June-July

**How to Observe:** If possible, select a lilac bush that has pale to medium purple flower buds and is in a location at least 10 m away from a building or obstacle.

**First Bloom:** When the first flowers or florets are open in at least three places on the marked shrub.

**Mid Bloom:** When half the flowers are open on the marked shrub.

**Leaf Out:** When the first leaves push out of the bud and unfold completely in three places.