



(12) **United States Plant Patent**  
**Wood**

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(54) **LILAC PLANT NAMED ‘PENDA’**

(50) Latin Name: *Syringa hybrida*  
Varietal Denomination: **Penda**

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(US)

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patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A new and distinct cultivar of Lilac plant named ‘Penda’,  
characterized by its relatively compact, upright and some-  
what outwardly spreading plant habit; vigorous growth habit;  
freely branching habit; resistance to root rot pathogens; large  
inflorescences with purple-colored flowers; reblooming  
habit; and good garden performance.

**2 Drawing Sheets**

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Botanical designation: *Syringa hybrida*.  
Cultivar denomination: ‘Penda’.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar  
of Lilac, botanically known as *Syringa hybrida* and herein-  
after referred to by the name ‘Penda’.

The new Lilac plant originated from an open-pollination  
during the spring of 2004 of *Syringa hybrida* ‘Josee’, not  
patented, as the female, or seed, parent with an unknown  
selection of *Syringa hybrida*, as the male, or pollen, parent.  
The new Lilac plant was discovered and selected by the  
Inventor during the spring of 2006 as a flowering plant within  
the progeny of the stated open-pollination in a controlled  
environment in Grand Haven, Mich.

Asexual reproduction of the new Lilac plant by softwood  
cuttings in a controlled greenhouse environment in Grand  
Haven, Mich. since the spring of 2007 has shown that the  
unique features of this new Lilac plant are stable and repro-  
duced true to type in successive generations of asexual repro-  
duction.

**SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION**

Plants of the new Lilac have not been observed under all  
possible environmental conditions. The phenotype may vary  
somewhat with variations in environment and cultural prac-  
tices such as temperature and light intensity without, how-  
ever, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are  
determined to be the unique characteristics of ‘Penda’. These  
characteristics in combination distinguish ‘Penda’ as a new  
and distinct cultivar of Lilac:

1. Relatively compact, upright and somewhat outwardly  
spreading plant habit.
2. Vigorous growth habit.
3. Freely branching habit.
4. Resistant to root rot pathogens.
5. Large inflorescences with purple-colored flowers.

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6. Reblooming habit.
7. Good garden performance.

Plants of the new Lilac can be compared to plants of the  
female parent, ‘Josee’. Plants of the new Lilac differ from  
plants of ‘Josee’ primarily in flower color as plants of the new  
Lilac have purple-colored flowers whereas plants of ‘Josee’  
have pinkish lavender-colored flowers. In addition, plants of  
the new Lilac are more resistant to root rot pathogens than  
plants of ‘Josee’.

Plants of the new Lilac can be compared to plants of the  
*Syringa meyeri* ‘Palabin’, not patented. In side-by-side com-  
parisons conducted in Grand Haven, Mich., plants of the new  
Lilac differed from plants of ‘Palabin’ primarily in flower  
color as flowers of plants of ‘Palabin’ were pale pink in color.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PHOTOGRAPHS**

The accompanying colored photographs illustrate the over-  
all appearance of the new Lilac, showing the colors as true as  
it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of  
this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from  
the color values cited in the detailed botanical description  
which accurately describe the colors of the new Lilac.

The photograph on the first sheet is a side perspective view  
of a typical plant of ‘Penda’ grown in an outdoor nursery.

The photograph on the second sheet is a close-up view of  
typical inflorescences of ‘Penda’.

**DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION**

The aforementioned photographs and following observa-  
tions, measurements and values describe plants grown in  
Grand Haven, Mich. during the spring and summer in an  
outdoor nursery and under conditions which closely approxi-  
mate commercial production. Plants were four years old  
when the photographs and the description were taken. In the  
description, color references are made to The Royal Horticul-  
tural Society Colour Chart, 1995 Edition, except where gen-  
eral terms of ordinary dictionary significance are used.  
Botanical classification: *Syringa hybrida* ‘Penda’.



## Parentage:

*Female, or seed, parent.*—*Syringa hybrida* ‘Josee’, not patented.

*Male, or pollen, parent.*—Unknown selection of *Syringa hybrida*, not patented.

## Propagation:

*Type.*—By softwood cuttings.

*Time to initiate roots.*—About 18 days at 27° C.

*Time to produce a rooted young plant.*—About three months at 27° C.

*Root description.*—Fine, fibrous.

*Rooting habit.*—Freely branching; dense.

## Plant description:

*Plant form and growth habit.*—Perennial shrub. Relatively compact, upright and somewhat outwardly spreading plant habit; vigorous growth habit.

*Branching habit.*—Freely branching, usually lateral branches potentially developing at every node after pinching (removal of terminal apices).

*Plant height.*—About 1 meter.

*Plant diameter (area of spread).*—About 1.5 meters.

## Lateral branch description:

*Length.*—About 20 cm.

*Diameter.*—About 2.5 mm.

*Internode length.*—About 2.2 cm.

*Texture.*—Pubescent.

*Color, immature.*—Close to 197A.

*Color, mature.*—Close to 197C.

## Foliage description:

*Arrangement.*—Opposite, simple.

*Length.*—About 2.8 cm.

*Width.*—About 2 cm.

*Shape.*—Ovate.

*Apex.*—Acute.

*Base.*—Obtuse.

*Margin.*—Entire; slightly undulated.

*Texture, upper and lower surfaces.*—Slightly pubescent.

*Venation pattern.*—Pinnate.

*Color.*—Developing and fully expanded leaves, upper surface: Close to 137A; venation, close to 137A. Developing and fully expanded leaves, lower surface: Close to 138B; venation, close to 137A.

*Petiole.*—Length: About 6 mm. Diameter: About 1 mm.

*Texture, upper and lower surfaces.*—Smooth, glabrous.

*Color, upper and lower surfaces.*—Close to 138A.

## Flower description:

*Flower appearance/arrangement.*—Single salverform flowers arranged in terminal panicles. Freely flowering habit with usually about 265 flowers per inflorescence. Flowers face upright to outwardly.

*Flower longevity.*—Flowers last for about two to three weeks on the plant; flowers not persistent.

*Natural flowering season.*—Typically in mid-May and reblooming in mid-July in Grand Haven, Mich.

*Fragrance.*—Moderate; sweet, pleasant.

*Inflorescence height.*—About 10 cm.

*Inflorescence diameter.*—About 7 cm.

*Flower diameter.*—About 8 mm.

*Flower length (height).*—About 1.4 cm.

*Flower bud.*—Length: About 5 mm. Diameter: About 2 mm. Shape: Funnelform. Color: Close to 83A.

*Petals.*—Arrangement/quantity: Single whorl of four to six petals; petals fused towards the base to form a tube. Length: About 2.5 mm. Width: About 1.5 mm. Shape: Ovate. Apex: Acute. Margin: Entire. Texture, upper and lower surfaces: Smooth, glabrous. Color: When opening and fully opened, upper surface: Close to 77B; color becoming closer to 77A with development. When opening and fully opened, lower surface: Close to 77A.

*Sepals.*—Extremely minute (less than 1 mm by 1 mm in size) and inconspicuous.

*Peduncles.*—Length: About 9 cm. Diameter: About 5 mm. Strength: Strong, flexible. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 197A.

*Pedicels.*—Length: About 2 mm. Diameter: About 1 mm. Strength: Strong, flexible. Texture: Smooth, glabrous. Color: Close to 77A.

*Reproductive organs.*—Androecium: Anther shape: Oblong. Anther size: About 2 mm by 1 mm. Anther color: Close to 77A. Amount of pollen: Scarce. Pollen color: Close to 201B. Gynoecium: Pistil length: About 3 mm. Style length: About 2 mm. Style color: Close to 77B. Stigma appearance: Rounded. Stigma color: Close to 155A.

*Seeds/fruits.*—Seed and fruit development have not been observed on plants of the new Lilac plant.

*Garden performance:* Plants of the new Lilac have been observed to have good garden performance and to tolerate rain, wind and temperatures ranging from about -31°C to about 38° C.

*Pathogen/pest resistance:* Plants of the new Lilac have been observed to be resistant to root rot pathogens that are common to Lilacs. Plants of the new Lilac have not been shown to be resistant to pests and other pathogens common to Lilac.

It is claimed:

1. A new and distinct Lilac plant named ‘Penda’ as illustrated and described.

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