

# Copper Curls® Pekin Lilac

*Syringa reticulata* ssp. *pekinensis* 'SunDak' (PP16,570)  
(Family: Oleaceae)

**Description:** A small tree with showy creamy white blossoms and very showy coppery-orange exfoliating bark. Grown either as a single or multi-trunked tree. Cold-tolerant and able to withstand urban environments (soils and pollution) make this an excellent tree for a variety of landscape uses.

**Hardiness:** USDA hardiness zone 3-7

**Mature Size:**

Height: 25'

Spread: 25'

**Form (Shape):** Rounded to upright spreading habit.

**Growth Rate:** Moderate

**Foliage:**

Summer: Shiny medium to dark green.

Autumn: Not showy.

**Texture:** Medium, finer texture and more open than Japanese Tree Lilac (*Syringa reticulata*) because of smaller stems and leaves.

**Flower:** Creamy-white flower panicles in late spring/early summer, 12-14 days after Common Lilac (*Syringa vulgaris*).

**Fruit:** Large tannish clusters of capsules remain on the tree, which add interest to the winter landscape.

**Special Features:** Extremely showy coppery-orange exfoliating (peeling, curling and flaking) bark.

**Light Preferences:** Full sun to part shade

**Soil Preferences:** Moist well-drained soils, soil pH adaptable.

**Propagation:** Grafting (Piece root grafting, bark grafting), tissue culture or softwood cuttings.

**Ornamental Attributes:** Copper Curls® Pekin Lilac is a late blooming small tree featuring showy plumes of fragrant creamy-white flowers. It has extremely showy exfoliating coppery-orange bark, which adds significant winter interest.

**Landscape Attributes:** One of the most trouble-free lilacs. Good choice for attracting butterflies and possibly deer resistant. This specimen is tolerant of urban conditions. It is recommended as a boulevard, small shade or landscape specimen tree.

**Comments:** Copper Curls® is introduced in collaboration with Dr. Scott Redlin, Raleigh, NC. Any pruning should be done after flowering.

**Availability:** Bailey Nurseries; Speer & Sons Nursery, Inc.

