

CONCLUSION

By implementing the above procedures we have found a satisfactory rooting percentage for propagating French hybrid lilacs. Each year the percentage varies, but we still have found this ground bed method the most economical way to produce quality lilac liners. After 2 years in our ground beds and 3 years in the field we have been able to harvest a 3- to 4-ft lilac ready to ship to our customers. We are continually striving to increase the rooting percentage by making subtle changes, but by following the procedures in this paper, lilacs can be successfully propagated by softwood cuttings and grown on to a large quality specimen shrub.

LITERATURE CITED

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The Educational System in Denmark

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I would like to thank IPPS Scandinavia who made this trip possible for me and Eastern Region for letting me speak at their annual meeting. My presentation will focus on horticultural education in Denmark and I will discuss the following categories

- Primary, secondary, and high school.
- Basic education groups
- Higher education groups.
- Education at university level

PRIMARY, SECONDARY, AND HIGH SCHOOL

Danish children start at primary school when they are 7 years old and almost 98% of them enroll in preschool classes 1 year before. They attend school for 9 or 10 years; only 45% attend the last year. It is optional for pupils to finish primary school by taking examinations in the most important disciplines. English is taught from the 4th year, and German or French from the 7th year. Most children go to public schools that are free and paid by the government. After finishing primary and lower secondary school approximately 45% of the pupils enroll in upper secondary school or high school.

BASIC EDUCATION GROUPS

Some basic education groups can be attended directly after primary and lower secondary school whereas others require upper secondary school. Basic education groups are provided by institutions such as technical and business colleges and by institutions with university status.

Technical colleges are basically divided into four groups according to sector

- Technical colleges (trades and industries and service trades).
- Business colleges (commerce and administration)

- Agricultural colleges (agriculture and horticulture).
- Social and health care colleges (public social and health care).

It is at the technical colleges that the basic training for horticulture starts. The training lasts for 4 years, 1 year is spent at college and 3 years are spent in nurseries or greenhouse companies. During school periods the student has to learn the following: computer studies, natural sciences (mathematics and chemistry), research methodology, languages (English), ecology, crop production, botany, plant production, plant nutrition, soil science, horticultural practices, production planning, pest control, quality control, and trade knowledge. He/she also has course assignment and a final project to complete.

HIGHER EDUCATIONS

After basic training in horticulture which lasts 4 years, you can enroll in the Production Manager or the Horticultural Technicians education which takes 2 years.

Aim. The aim of the 2-year technicians education course is to provide students with a thorough theoretical knowledge and a range of necessary skills in the areas of crop production, business, and management techniques so that on completion of the course the student has a sound professional foundation for undertaking a range of responsible roles in various branches of the horticultural industry.

Participants. The course is primarily for qualified skilled gardeners who wish to expand their skills and theoretical knowledge with a view to:

- Working as production manager in a variety of horticultural enterprises.
- Buying their own horticultural enterprise.
- Employment in a business or service company related to the horticultural industry.
- Employment in government institutions involved with research or inspection, etc.
- Teaching at a horticultural college.

The Course. The course takes 2 years and consists of four semesters. The school year starts each year at the beginning of August and finishes mid-June. At the end of each semester, there are written and/or oral examinations in some of the subjects which have been taught. In addition, during each semester a written assignment is prepared and this is presented and defended at the examination. During the final semester a project is undertaken which involves a written report about a practical or theoretical subject relating to the course. After passing the examination and completing the obligatory written assignments satisfactorily, the student receives a diploma.

EDUCATION AT UNIVERSITY LEVEL

When students have earned their degree from upper secondary school they can attend the Agricultural University in Copenhagen or one of the other universities in Denmark. At the Agricultural University you can earn a bachelor or master degree in horticulture within 3 or 5 years, respectively.