

attract attention; but I will here say that I consider the former the prettier and more desirable of the two.

The *Enlalia* usually flowers about the middle of September, the flower panicles being produced from the summit of the stalks. At first they are brownish, and not at all showy; but as the flowers open the branches of the panicles curve over gracefully in a one-sided manner, thus presenting the appearance of ostrich plumes. If the flowers are cut when fully developed, and dried in a dry, airy situation, they will be found to be very desirable for decorative purposes during the winter season.—*Rural New Yorker*.

BEST HARDY SPIRÆAS.

BY PROF. J. L. BUDD, IOWA AGR. COLLEGE.

As some of the best spiræas found on Eastern lawns are not hardy on the prairies north of the 41st parallel, a few notes on the finest "ironclads" may be useful to propagators and planters.

Spiræa opulifolia: A large shrub with bold outlines. Its light green, lobed leaves give a pleasing expression through the season, and its abundant crop of white flowers in June is followed by showy seed capsules which in the latter part of the season are shaded with deep crimson. It is easily propagated by cuttings of the new wood.

S. trilobata: This is a special favorite in Michigan, Ohio, and the Eastern States, and seems still more beautiful on the prairie. Its branches spread out laterally, with recurved tips loaded in May with compact corymbs of pure white flowers. Its glaucous, lobed leaves are pretty through the season. It is propagated from cuttings with base of two-year-old wood.

S. Van Houttei: Much like *trilobata* in leaf, expression, and flower, but the habit of the plant is more grace-

ful, and the pure white flowers are larger. It is propagated the same as *trilobata*.

S. Douglasii: An erect, handsome shrub, with oblong lanceolate leaves with a white down beneath. The flowers appear in July and often continue to middle of August. The long, dense panicles of bright pink flowers form on the terminal points of the season's growth of new wood. Where the wood of the preceding year's growth is cut back in early spring or autumn, as practised with the roses, the exhibit of bloom exceeds even that on the *spiræa callosa*, which with us fails to endure the winters. Propagated from cuttings as above.

S. Nobleana: Much like *Douglasii* in habit and foliage, but with broader and looser racemes of purplish red flowers in July. In all respects a fine showy variety. It is propagated from cuttings.

S. hypericifolia: A larger growing shrub than the four preceding. It runs into many varieties varying in leaf and habit of flowering. The variety best known with us is *acuta*, sometimes grown as *S. Sibiriæ*. The flowers are white, in small terminal umbels on short spring growths from the new wood. Properly shaped and cut back it becomes a sheet of bloom in early May. It is propagated from cuttings of new wood, or from suckers or root cuttings.

S. chamædrifolia: This is a beautiful species running into a number of varieties, all hardly so far as tried. It has small, wiry branches covered in June with clusters of white flowers. In Northeast Europe it is much used for ornamental hedging. In this form it becomes literally a wall of pure white flowers and its foliage is pretty through the season.

The fine Japanese species are not