Abeliophyllum (White Forsythia)

**Latin Name Pronunciation:** a-bee-lee-o-ye´lum

Willowy, slightly spreading Abeliophyllum reaches 3–5’ in height. In early spring, it produces fragrant, white Forsythia-type flowers. Bring some branches inside in February for earlier bloom. White Flower Farm first introduced this plant to American gardeners in the early 1960's.

**CULTURE:** Full sun to light shade, average soil; prune out old shoots to maintain vigor. Space 3–4’ apart. Fertilize once in early spring with 10-10-10. Once plants are established, the next year's crop of flowers will be greatly enhanced by removing about one-third of the old wood after the flowering period is over.

**GROWTH:** Usually flowers within a year or two of planting. The rate of growth varies from slow (12” or less a year) to fast (25” or more a year) depending on the situation.

**SUGGESTED USE:** Plant in a shrub border or fragrance garden. Underplant with *Scilla sibirica* or species Crocus for a lovely early spring display.

No notable pests or diseases. Blossoms may be nipped by late frosts, so try to site the shrub where late-winter warmth won't encourage it to bloom too early.