



## CREPE MYRTLE VARIETIES

The Crepe Myrtle offers beauty to the Southern landscape in all seasons with summer flowers, fall color, winter bark interest and attractive foliage from spring until fall.

Lagerstroemia indica, or Crepe Myrtle as it's more commonly known, has been around for more than one thousand years. Its roots actually began in China, but it has been in cultivation in the United States for more than a century.

For the past 25 years or so, the late Dr. Donald Egolf of the National Arboretum worked to cross-breed Lagerstroemia indica with Lagerstroemia fauriei, which resulted in a number of new introductions that proved more disease-resistant, hardier, and more vigorous. In addition, all have mottled peeling bark, which can be very showy in winter. The new fauriei hybrids are proving to be much superior performers, which offer more success. All Crepe Myrtles should be planted in full sun for best results.

One of Hampton Roads' most popular plants, the Crepe Myrtle has often been called "The Tree of 100 Days" because of its long flowering period. Crepe Myrtles are also very water-wise, which is an important concern when selecting plants today. With nearly thirty varieties to choose from, Eastern Virginia gardeners can choose the Crepe Myrtle that fits both color and growth requirements.

*McDonald Garden Center is home of the "Crepe Myrtle Fest" and proudly offers this collection:*

### Red Varieties:

#### Cherry Dazzle

4'x4', compact mounded shrub

#### Dynamite

20'x15', small tree, deep red blooms

#### Red Rocket

20'x15', bright red blooms

### White Varieties:

#### Acoma

10'x10', weeping form, small tree

#### Natchez

25'x20', fast growing, cinnamon-brown exfoliating bark

### Pink Varieties:

#### Dazzle Me Pink

3x3', compact mounded shrub

#### Hopi

10'x10', hardiest variety, soft pink blooms

#### Pocomoke

3'x3', compact mounded shrub, dark rosy-pink blooms

#### Tonto

12'x12', small tree, dark fuchsia blooms

#### Tuscarora

25'x20', fast growing, deep pink blooms

### Purple/Lavender Varieties:

#### Catawba

15'x15', dark purple flowers

#### Muskogee

25'x20', fast growing, lavender flowers

#### Zuni

10'x10', small tree



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