

Lagerstroemia indica

Botanical Name: *Lagerstroemia indica*

Common Name: Crepe myrtle

Morphological Characters:

Crepe myrtles are chiefly known for their colorful and long-lasting flowers which occur in summer. Most species of *Lagerstroemia* have sinewy, fluted stems and branches with a mottled appearance that arises from having bark that sheds throughout the year. The leaves are opposite and simple, with entire margins, and vary from 5–20 cm (2–8 in). While all species are woody in nature, they can range in height from over 30 m (100 ft) to under 30 cm (1 ft); most, however, are small to medium multiple-trunked trees and shrubs. The leaves of temperate species provide autumn color. Bare branches re-leaf early in the spring; leaves are small, smooth-edged, circular or oval-shaped, and dark green changing to yellow and orange and red in autumn.



Growing Season and Type:

1. The bark is a prominent feature being smooth, pinkish-gray and mottled, shedding each year. Leaves also shed each winter, after spectacular color display.
2. Flowers, on different trees, are white, pink, mauve, purple or carmine with crimped petals, in panicles up to 9 centimetres (3 1/2 in).
3. *Lagerstroemia indica* is frost tolerant, prefers full sun and will grow to 6 metres (20 ft) with a spread of 6 metres (20 ft).
4. It has along flowering period in summer and has an attractive autumn foliage.



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1) Flower image of *Lagerstroemia indica*

2) Leaf image of *Lagerstroemia indica*

3) Tree image of *Lagerstroemia indica*

source: http://www.gardensonline.com.au/GardenShed/PlantFinder/Show_2882.aspx,