

## *Lagerstroemia speciosa*

**Botanical Name:** *Lagerstroemia speciosa*

**Common Name:** Pride of India

### **Morphological Characteristics:**

It is a small to medium-sized tree growing to 20 metres (66 ft) tall, with smooth, flaky bark. The leaves are deciduous, oval to elliptic, 8–15 cm (3.1–5.9 in) long and 3–7 cm (1.2–2.8 in) broad, with an acute apex. The flowers are produced in erect panicles 20–40 cm (7.9–15.7 in) long, each flower with six white to purple petals 2–3.5 cm (0.79–1.38 in) long.



### **Growing season and Type:**

1. The flowers in this plant bloom only once in a year at the peak of summer. In India, the wood is used for railroad ties and construction.
2. The bark is thin and easily injured. A profusion of large, three-inch wide, bright pink to lavender blooms appear in dense, foot-long, terminal panicles from June to July, making Queen's Crape-Myrtle a spectacular specimen or street tree.
3. This large, upright rounded, deciduous tree is clothed with 12-inch-long, dark green, oblong, leathery leaves which turn attractively red before falling in winter.



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- 1) Flower of *Lagerstroemia speciosa*
- 2) Leaf of *Lagerstroemia speciosa*
- 3) Tree of *Lagerstroemia speciosa*