
Lagerstroemia ‘Chickasaw’



The U.S. National Arboretum announces the release of ‘Chickasaw’, the first in a series of miniature hybrid crapemyrtles. This small, densely branched, compact plant is the answer to a gardener's dream. Striking clusters of glossy, dark red buds open to lavender flowers in mid-summer, crowning the glossy, dark green, disease-resistant foliage. A delightful plant for display in containers, ‘Chickasaw’ is also the perfect choice for use as a summer-flowering perennial or as a specimen in the rock garden.



U.S. National Arboretum Plant Introduction
Floral and Nursery Plants Research Unit



U.S. National Arboretum, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, 3501 New York Ave. NE., Washington, DC 20002



'Chickasaw' hybrid crapemyrtle

Botanical name:	<i>Lagerstroemia</i> 'Chickasaw' (NA 62919; PI 596408)
Family:	Lythraceae
Hardiness:	Reliably top hardy to USDA Zone 7b; root hardy to Zone 6
Development:	'Chickasaw' was produced and selected by Dr Donald Egolf from a complex pedigree involving five original plants whose progeny were inter-crossed for five generations. Approximately one-third of its genotype was contributed by <i>Lagerstroemia fauriei</i> . The first cross in this pedigree was made in 1967, and the final cross that resulted in 'Chickasaw' was made in 1989. Released in 1997.
Significance:	'Chickasaw' is the first true miniature hybrid with <i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> and <i>L. fauriei</i> parentage; it reaches a height of 20 inches and a width of 26 inches after seven years in container culture. It is highly tolerant to powdery mildew.
Description:	Height and Width: 20 inches tall and 26 inches wide after seven years in container culture. Habit: Deciduous, densely branched, dwarf mound. It has occasionally been observed to produce large growths that should be removed when they appear. Foliage: Fine-textured, glossy, dark green foliage, highly tolerant to powdery mildew. Flowers: Pinkish lavender flowers in mid-to-late summer, approximately two weeks after flowers appear on standard hybrid forms of crapemyrtle; persist until frost.
Culture:	'Chickasaw' is adaptable to the same cultural conditions as other crapemyrtle hybrid cultivars. It thrives in full sun in a good, heavy loam soil with a pH of 5.0-6.5.
Propagation:	Roots easily from softwood or semi-hardwood cuttings taken before flowering. Rooting occurs in 2-3 weeks under mist, after treatment with 1000 ppm IBA.
Landscape use:	Small foundation or border plants, mass plantings in beds in parks and public areas, specimen plants in rock gardens or terraces, or patio container plants.
Availability:	Rooted cuttings were distributed to wholesale nurseries in 1997 and became available in limited retail nurseries in 2000.

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