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## **Crapemyrtle 'Catawba'**

**Leaf Color** Green  
**Fall Color** Orange and red  
This plant has attractive fall colors.

**Leaf Identification**  
**Type:** Simple  
**Arrangement:** Opposite  
**Venations:** Pinnate  
**Margins:** Entire  
**Shapes:** Elliptic, oblong and obovate  
**Length:** Less than 2in./5cm to 4in./10cm

**Fruit Color** Brown  
The fruit is dry, oval and round.

**Environment**  
This plant tolerates some drought and a little salt.  
This plant will grow in dry soil.  
**Nomenclature:** Suitable soil is well-drained/loamy, sandy or clay.  
The pH preference is an acidic to slightly alkaline (less than 6.8 to 7.7) soil.

**Landscape Uses**  
- Specimen

**Attributes and Features**  
- Pest tolerant  
- Persistent fruit  
- Attractive fruit

**Lagerstroemia x 'Catawba'**  
Crapemyrtle  
**Lythraceae (Loosestrife)**

**Type** Tree, woody plant

**Hardy range** 7A to 9A  
**Height** 12' to 15' / 3.60m to 4.60m  
**Spread** 12' to 15' / 3.60m to 4.60m  
**Growth rate** Average  
**Form** Vase shaped  
**Exposure** Full sun

**Bloom Color** Purple  
**Bloom Time** Spring and Summer

The flowers are very showy.

**Native Habitat**  
Hybrid

**Crown, Branch and Twig**  
This plant is symmetrical with a medium texture and has a moderately dense crown.  
This plant's bark is thin and showy.  
Branches or twigs are thin.  
This plant is often grown with multiple trunks.

Branches droop.  
This plant can be trained to a single trunk.  
This plant has low flammability.

**Pests, Diseases and Damaging Agents**  
Pests: Aphids often infest the new growth causing an unsightly sooty mold to grow on the foliage. Heavy infestations can be serious. There are new cultivars (many developed by the USDA) available which are resistant to powdery mildew and aphids. Ambrosia beetle can attack even healthy trees; they tend to attack as trees emerge from dormancy. Japanese beetles relish the foliage of crapemyrtle.



Diseases: Powdery mildew can severely affect Crapemyrtle but this cultivar is fairly resistant to mildew. Leaf spots are usually a minor concern and do not require treatment; this cultivar is moderately resistant to leaf spot. Crapemyrtle is susceptible to *Armillaria mellea* root rot, a root fungus disease that girdles the trunk at the base of the plant. Plants in soils previously supporting oaks are most often infected.

