



## *Lagerstroemia* 'Apalachee'



**Botanical Name:** *Lagerstroemia indica* × *fauriei* 'Apalachee'  
(NA54979; PI499825)

**Hardiness:** USDA Zones 7-9

**Development:** 'Apalachee' resulted from a controlled hybridization made in 1972 between *L. indica* and *L. fauriei*. It was selected in 1976 and released in 1986. Despite its outstanding ornamental attributes, including unique flower color and spectacular medium-brown bark, 'Apalachee' has been virtually lost in the trade. The National Arboretum re-introduced this valuable cultivar in 2016.

**Significance:** 'Apalachee' was one of the first medium-sized mildew-resistant hybrid crapemyrtle cultivars released by the U.S. National Arboretum. The *L. fauriei* used as a parent is 'Kiowa', which was wild collected in Japan and, based on molecular studies done by Arboretum scientists, represents a completely different gene pool than that of other hybrids in the U.S. 'Apalachee' and 'Kiowa' are valuable resources to broaden the genetic base of crapemyrtles in the landscape.

**Description:** **Height and width:** 12 feet tall and 8 feet wide after 12 years in Washington, D.C.

**Habit:** Deciduous, multi-stemmed large shrub to medium-sized tree with sinuous, exfoliating, mottled cinnamon to chestnut brown trunk.

**Foliage:** Glossy dark green leaves that turn orange to russet or dark red in the fall.

**Flowers:** Light lavender, mildly fragrant flowers produced from July to September; prolific recurrent bloom; long tapered panicles with 150-400 flowers per inflorescence.

**Propagation:** Readily propagated by softwood, semi-hardwood, hardwood, or root cuttings, per standard practices for other crapemyrtle cultivars.

**Landscape Use:** Small/medium specimen tree, shrub border, informal tall hedge, or mass planted in public areas.

**Availability:** Currently limited availability. Interested wholesale growers may receive propagation material by contacting Kevin Conrad at the U.S. National Arboretum, [Kevin.Conrad@ars.usda.gov](mailto:Kevin.Conrad@ars.usda.gov)