**CULTIVARS AND NAMES OF *LAGERSTROEMIA***

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This ***Lagerstroemia* Checklist** is an updated edition of the original *Lagerstroemia* Checklist of Cultivar Names, published in 1978. It is the compiler’s opinion that in recent years, the search for clarity in the names of various crape myrtle selections goes beyond just the inclusion of valid cultivar names as dictated by the rules of the *International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants–1995*. For the nurseryman, consumer, or other interested person, trade names with their synonyms need to be included so that the public can make knowledgeable decisions about the crapemyrtle they may wish to grow or market.

The format of the list is basically the same as in the previous checklist:

* Regardless of rank, all names (sub-species), botanical varieties, botanical forms, cultivars, trade names, or trademarked names are enumerated in alphabetical order. Since all entries are alphabetized, no index appears in this list.
* The reference(s) for a name is placed in parentheses. This is followed by a notation if a description is absent, and a second reference cited that includes a description. Subsequent pertinent references are also cited.
* Important information from the original bibliographic citation follows the name and is preceded by a colon. Descriptive information is presented in the following order: Habit; leaf characters; flower characters; and miscellaneous data such as hardiness and disease resistance. When available, the source, discoverer, selector, namer, and introducer (with significant dates) follow. Information undocumented by published references is often included and segregated by periods.
* Synonyms are cited in alphabetical order at the end of each entry, with the valid name at the beginning of the list in bold type.
* Any species identity, other than *L. indica*, is given (in italics) at the end of the paragraph that follows each valid name.
* All color designations, when given, are according to the *Horticultural Colour Chart*, 1942, issued by the British Colour Council in collaboration with the Royal Horticultural Society, indicated by superscript 1; the *R.H.S. Colour Chart*, 1966, published by the Royal Horticultural Society, indicated by superscript 2; and the *R.H.S. Colour Chart*, 1982, published by the Royal Horticultural Society, indicated by superscript 3.
* Cultivar names registered with the U.S. National Arboretum are so designated by date.
* The various type styles indicated the following taxon categories:
	+ **ALBA** – Valid cultivar name
	+ ALBA – Invalid cultivar name or undetermined
	+ *L. indica* – Valid species name.

**CATAWBA**
(D. Egolf, Baileya 15(1):7-8. 1967): Dense, globose shrub, 3.5 m high; leaves. glossy dark green, thinly coriaceous, turning brilliant orange-red in autumn; panicles 12-17 cm long, 11-15 cm wide, abundantly produced, flowers. dark purple (Violet Purple 733/1 1); highly mildew tolerant; orig. in 1960 from cross of *L. indica* **DWARF PURPLE** x *L. indica* **LIGHT LAVENDER** and intro. in 1967 by U.S. National Arboretum; NA 28861; PI 316671. Name registered September 20, 1966.

**CENTENNIAL SPIRIT**
(Carl E. Whitcomb, HortSci. 20(6):1144-1145. 1985): Vigorous upright shrub or small tree with few secondary branches or suckers; lvs. smaller and thicker than the species average, dark green turning red-orange in fall; infl. large, strongly upright, 20-30 cm in length, 0-20 cm wide; individual petals are dark wine-red (spiraea red; Royal Horticulture Society Colour Chart #025) and discolor very little with age; flowers late June-Oct.; has shown consistent resistance to powdery mildew under landscape and container conditions. Orig. in 1981 as open-pollinated seedling of an F 1 generation of *L. indica* treated with the mutagen EMS (ethyl methane sulfonate); intro. 1985. Plant Patent #6383.

**CHEROKEE**
(D. Egolf, Baileya 17(1):1-2. 1970): Open-branched shrub, 2.5 m high; leaves. glossy dark green, thinly coriaceous; panicles 14-19 cm long, 9-15 cm wide, fls brilliant red (Red Purple 63A 2); orig. in 1960 from cross of *L. indica* **HARDY RED** x *L. indica* **LOW FLAME**; intro. in 1970 by U.S. National Arboretum; NA 30167; PI 326427. Name registered March 17, 1970.

**DYNAMITE**®
(David Byers, *Crape myrtle A Grower’s Thoughts*, p. 78. 1997): *Lagerstroemia indica* DYNAMITE® WHIT II was selected and named by Dr. Carl Whitcomb at his Stillwater, OK, research farm. “The crimson flower buds become cherry red blooms and are set against a background of thick, green, leathery leaves which start as crimson-toned young foliage. This cultivar roots and transplants with great ease. it is a vigorous, upright grower and, in the right location, may reach twenty feet tall. So far, it has withstood winter cold to -5ΕF. It is from the same parentage as other Whitcomb selections, RASPBERRY SUNDAE™ and **CENTENNIAL SPIRIT**, only several generations down the line.”
( U.S. Plant Patent #10296). = WHIT II.

**Dynamite ®** Chosen as one of the "2002 Arkansas Select Plants"
This is the first true red tree form crape myrtle. Cherry red flowers in full sun and hot conditions. (Clouds or shade will reduce red intensity and flecks of white may appear.) New growth is crimson, then green. Upright form to 15 feet. High mildew
resistance but may develop anthracnose (yellowing leaves) under severe conditions.
Can be grown as a bush or multi-stem tree.
An introduction from Dr. Carl Whitcomb of Stillwater, Oklahoma

**MUSKOGEE**
(D.R. Egolf and A.O. Andrick, *The Lagerstroemia Handbook/Checklist A Guide to Crape myrtle Cultivars*, p. 53. 1978): Multiple-stemmed large shrub or small tree, 7 m high and 3.5 m wide [NOTE: 28 feet tall with a 30 foot crown spread at 35 years]; exfoliating trunk bark medium brown (Greyed Orange 164B-165D 2); lvs. heavy, dark green, 5-9 cm long and 2.5-4.5 cm wide, in autumn turn good reds and yellows; infl. 10-18 cm long, 10-12 cm wide, with light lavender (Violet 84C) fls.; under field conditions plant is highly mildew tolerant. Orig. in 1964 from a cross of *L. indica* **PINK LACE** x *L. fauriei*; selected in 1969; intro. in 1978 by U.S. National Arboretum; NA 38448; PI 427114. Name registered May 15, 1978.

**NATCHEZ**
(D.R. Egolf and A.O. Andrick, *The Lagerstroemia Handbook/Checklist A Guide to Crapemyrtle Cultivars*, p. 53. 1978): Multiple-stemmed large shrub or small tree, 7 m high and 3.5 m wide [NOTE: 30 feet high and 35 foot crown spread at 35 years]; exfoliating trunk bark dark cinnamon brown (Greyed Orange 166B-174D 2) and spectacular throughout the year; leaves. glossy, dark green, 3.4-8 cm long and 2-4 cm wide, in autumn good oranges and reds; infl. 14-30 cm long and 10-15 cm wide with pure white fls.; under field conditions plant is high mildew tolerant. Orig. in 1964 from a cross of *L. indica* **PINK LACE** x *L. fauriei*; selected in 1969; intro. in 1978 by U.S. National Arboretum; NA 38449; PI 427115. Name registered May 15, 1978.

**PETITE EMBERS**™
(Monrovia Nurs., Azusa , CA . Cat. p. 65. 1961-62): Dwarf, upright to about 4-5 ft; fls. rose red; hardy to zone 6. Orig. as hybrid developed by Otto Spring, Okmulgee , OK . Named, trademarked in State of California, and intro. in 1961 by Monrovia Nurs. (Red Purple 60C 2). Name registered June 13, 1974. Misspelled PETITE EMBERG.
[NOTE: In accordance with the 1995 International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants, names that are trademarked are not valid cultivar names. Therefore, the registration of the cultivar name PETITE EMBERS is rescinded and thecultivar name MONERS is registered and approved as of January 1, 1996. *International Code of Nomenclature for Cultivated Plants - 1995*, Principle 6, p. 4. 1995]. = MONERS.

**RED ROCKET**™
(Dr. Carl Whitcomb, Lacebark Inc., Stillwater , OK . “Five New Crape myrtle”, undated, unpubl. sheet received May, 1999, at U.S. National Arboretum, Washington , DC ): PPAF. Cherry red flowers. in huge cone-shaped clusters. Fl. clusters may be 20 in. or more in length. Fl. buds are dark crimson. New leaves. crimson, quickly changing to dark green. Fall color orange. Current season’s shoots are also crimson, providing a contrast to the green foliage. Seed production is modest; seed viability is low. Growth habit: single or multiple stem, very large shrub or small tree, 20 ft. or more in height; vigorous upright grower with only moderate horizontal branching. Very drought tolerant. Cold hardy to -5 to -8ΕF. Highly resistant to powdery mildew. Grows and flowers best when NOT pruned back in winter. Flowering is best in full sun.
= WHIT IV.

**Red Rocket®** Cherry red flowers with hot, sunny conditions. Like Dynamite®, also loses red intensity and may fleck white when cool and cloudy. New growth is crimson, then dark green. Upright form to 15 feet. Fastest growing 'Whit' red. High mildew and anthracnose resistance. Huge flower clusters up to 24" tall. May repeat bloom more than Dynamite®. Can be grown as a bush or multi-stem tree.
An introduction from Dr. Carl Whitcomb of Stillwater, Oklahoma

**Rhapsody in Pink® PP16616**

Produces soft pink flowers. New growth is almost purple and persists most of the season. Upright form to 12 feet. High mildew resistance. Distinctly unique landscape appearance with soft pink flowers against nearly purple foliage. Can be grown as a multi-stemmed tree. An introduction from Carl Whitcomb of Stillwater Oklahoma

**TUSCARORA**
(D.R. Egolf and A.O. Andrick, *The Lagerstroemia Handbook/Checklist,* AABGA, p. 64. 1978): Multiple-stemmed large shrub or small tree; trunk light brown; lvs. heavy, glossy above, dark green and red tinged when young, 3-8 cm long, 2.5-3.5 cm wide; infl. 12-30 cm long and 10-20 sm wide, with dark coral pink (Red 54A 2) fls.; plant under field conditions highly mildew tolerant. Orig. in 1967 from a cross of *L.* (*indica* x *fauriei*) **BASHAM’S PARTY PINK** X *L. indica* **CHEROKEE**; selected in 1971; to be introduced in 1980 by U.S. National Arboretum; NA 41787; PI 427116. Name registered May 15, 1978. Released July 24, 1978.

**TWILIGHT**
(Henry Field Seed & Nurs., Shenandoah , IA. Cat. p. 85. Sp. 1958): Standard; leaves. shiny, deep green; flowers. royal purple.
(Texas Nurs., Sherman , TX . Cat. p. 8. 1959-60): Vigorous grower; panicles heavy, flowers. Dark purple. Orig. as chance seedling selected in 1957, named in 1958, and trademarked in State of Texas by J.B. Fitzpatrick, Texas Nurs. Red Purple 59D2.

**ZUNI**
(D.R. Egolf, HortSci. 21(5):1250-1252. 1986): Deciduous, globose, semi-dwarf, multiple-stemmed shrub; exfoliating branches and trunk grey (Grey 201A 2) prior to light brown grey (Grey Brown 199D), lvs. elliptic to obovate, 4.5-5.5 cm long, 2.5-3.0 cm wide, glossy, dark green (Yellow Green 147A above and Yellow Green 146B beneath), in autumn orange-red (Orange Red 34A) to dark red (Red 46A); infl. ovate, 8-14 cm long and 8-13 cm wide with medium lavender (Red Purple 72B) flowers., mass blooming from mid July to late September; mildew resistant; hardy zone 7b; orig. in 1972 from the cross of (*L. indica* DWARF RED x *L. fauriei*) X *L. indica* **LOW FLAME**; selected in 1977; intro. in 1986 by U.S. National Arboretum; NA 54982; PI 499827. Name registered May 1, 1992.