

‘Tuscarora’ Crapemyrtle **(*Lagerstroemia* x ‘Tuscarora’)**

The ‘Tuscarora’ Crapemyrtle is known to have a long period of striking flower color, attractive fall foliage, fabulous, exfoliating bark and good drought-tolerance, making it a favorite small tree for either formal or informal landscapes.

Literature suggests that this cultivar is less cold hardy than some of the other selections, but has fared well in our North Florida Arboretum with little attention. This medium sized tree reaches 18 to 25 feet tall with a 15 to 18 foot spread. ‘Tuscarora’ is upright-spreading, or vase-shaped, featuring 6- to 12-inch long panicles of coral pink flowers on the tips of branches during the summer. Fall color may be yellow, orange, or red.

Lower branches droop as they grow older, and they will need to be removed to show off the bark and interesting trunk form. Pruning should be done in late winter or early in the spring before growth begins. New growth can be pinched during the growing season to increase branching and flower number. For more information on pruning, see [Crapemyrtle Pruning](#).



‘Tuscarora’ is resistant to powdery mildew and insect pests are few, although aphids often infest new growth causing an unsightly but harmless sooty mold to grow on the foliage.

Crapemyrtle grows best in full sun with rich, moist soil but will tolerate less hospitable positions in the landscape once it becomes established, including clay and alkaline soils. This cultivar is recommended for planting in urban areas. It grows well in limited soil spaces in urban areas if provided with some irrigation.

To determine which cultivar is right for your landscape, visit [Crapemyrtle in Florida](#) for a list of cultivars and their characteristics.

Information Source: Gilman, E. F. and Watson, D.G. (1993). *Lagerstroemia* x ‘Tuscarora’: ‘Tuscarora’. University of Florida. <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st348>

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