

Lagerstroemia speciosa,



Lagerstroemia speciosa, commonly known as Queen's crape myrtle or pride of India, is a species of flowering tree native to tropical and subtropical regions of Asia.

Name of *Lagerstroemia speciosa* in Indian languages:

1. Hindi: Jarul, Banaba
2. Tamil: Kadali
3. Telugu: Devaga
4. Malayalam: Manjaadimaram
5. Kannada: Hole Dasavala
6. Marathi: Tamhan
7. Bengali: Jarul, Arjuna

TAXONOMY:

Kingdom: Plantae

Clade: Tracheophytes

Order: Myrtales

Family: Lythraceae

Genus: *Lagerstroemia*

Species: *L. speciosa*



USES

1. Ornamental Purposes:

Lagerstroemia speciosa is widely cultivated as an ornamental tree in tropical and subtropical regions for its showy flowers, attractive bark, and overall aesthetic appeal. It is often used as a street tree, in parks, gardens, and as a shade tree in landscapes.

2. Medicinal Uses:

Various parts of the tree, including the bark, leaves, and flowers, have been used in traditional medicine for their supposed medicinal properties. Extracts from *Lagerstroemia speciosa* are believed to have anti-inflammatory, antioxidant, and antidiabetic effects.

3. Timber:

The wood of *Lagerstroemia speciosa* is used in some regions for making furniture, utensils, and small household items.

Cultivation:

Lagerstroemia speciosa prefers full sun and well-drained soil. It can tolerate a range of soil types but thrives in fertile, loamy soil with good drainage.

The tree is propagated from seeds or cuttings and is relatively low maintenance once established, requiring occasional pruning to maintain shape and promote flowering.

Characteristics Feature

- **Size:** *Lagerstroemia speciosa* is a medium to large sized tree that can reach heights of 1020 meters (3366 feet).
 - **Leaves:** The leaves are opposite, simple, lanceolate to elliptic in shape, and dark green in color.
 - **Flowers:** The flowers are large and showy, typically borne in terminal panicles (clusters) at the ends of branches. Each flower has crinkled petals and varies in color from white to shades of pink, purple, or lavender.
 - **Bark:** The bark is smooth and light gray, becoming mottled with age.
 - **Fruits:** The fruit is a small, round capsule containing numerous tiny seeds.
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