Summerlasting™ Strawberry Crapemyrtle

Lagerstroemia indica 'HOCH266'



Summerlasting Strawberry Crapemyrtle flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 3 feet

Spread: 3 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 7

Other Names: Crape Myrtle, Crepe Myrtle

Group/Class: Summerlasting Series

Description:

This stunning dwarf crapemyrtle produces incredibly dense, bright pink blooms all summer; attractive red new growth matures to green; has excellent mildew resistance; a captivating focal point for smaller gardens or borders; good for container planting

Ornamental Features

Summerlasting Strawberry Crapemyrtle is clothed in stunning panicles of pink frilly flowers with red overtones at the ends of the branches from late spring to late summer, which emerge from distinctive dark red flower buds. It has green deciduous foliage which emerges brick red in spring. The glossy oval leaves turn orange and red in fall. The red stems can be quite attractive.

Landscape Attributes

Summerlasting Strawberry Crapemyrtle is a dense multi-stemmed deciduous shrub with a mounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep. Trim off the flower heads after they fade and die to encourage more blooms late into the season. It is a good choice for attracting bees and butterflies to your yard, but is not particularly attractive to deer who tend to leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Summerlasting Strawberry Crapemyrtle is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting

Planting & Growing

Summerlasting Strawberry Crapemyrtle will grow to be about 3 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 3 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 20 years.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. To help this plant achive its best flowering performance, periodically apply a flower-boosting fertilizer from early spring through into the active growing season. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have rich, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.

Summerlasting Strawberry Crapemyrtle makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.