

# *Lagerstroemia archeriana* F.M.Bailey

## Family:

Lythraceae

Bailey, F.M. (1883) *A Synopsis of the Queensland Flora* : 196. Type: Found on the Palmer River by Mr. J.C. Baird.

## Common name:

Queensland Crepe Myrtle; Crepe Myrtle; Native Crepe Myrtle

## Stem

A small tree seldom exceeding 30 cm dbh. Living bark layer quite thin. Inner blaze and cambial layer turning pink or purplish on exposure. Deciduous; leafless for a period in September or October.

## Leaves

Leaf blades about 7-17 x 2-5 cm. Petioles short. Stipules visible on young shoots, small, with a short swollen base and abruptly tapering into a small, prickle-like tip. Lateral veins curved throughout their length, sometimes forming loops inside the blade margin. Bark on the larger twigs tending to be scaly and/or slightly stringy.

## Flowers

Calyx lobes about 2-4 mm long, valvate, longitudinally ribbed, apiculate in the bud, hairs branched (dendritic). Petals about 16-10 mm long. Staminodes pink-red, much larger than the stamens.

## Fruit

Calyx lobes persistent. Seeds winged at one end, seed plus wing about 9 x 3-4 mm.

## Seedlings

Cotyledons broadly obovate, about 5-7 mm broad, base cuneate. At the tenth leaf stage: leaves elliptic, shortly petiolate, apex acuminate, glabrous on the upper surface, stem wings narrow. Seed germination time 12 to 246 days.

## Distribution and Ecology

Occurs in WA, CYP and NEQ. Altitudinal range from near sea level to 500 m. Grows in monsoon forest and gallery forest. Also occurs in New Guinea and other islands in Malesia.

## Natural History & Notes

This widespread tree which usually occurs in drier forests is already in cultivation. This species has horticultural merit producing large numbers of mauve, pink or purple flowers which are large and showy.

## Synonyms

*Lagerstroemia archeriana* var. *glabrescens* F.M.Bailey, *Queensland Agricultural Journal* 15(8): 898(1905), Type: Walsh River, T. Barclay-Millar, March, 1891. Coen, Mrs. R.W. Garraway, April, 1905. *Lagerstroemia archeriana* F.M.Bailey subsp. *archeriana*, *Flora of Australia* 18: 112().

*Lagerstroemia archeriana* F.M.Bailey var. *archeriana*, *Queensland Agricultural Journal* 15(8): 898(1905).

## RFK Code

604



Flowers [not vouchered]. © G. Sankowsky



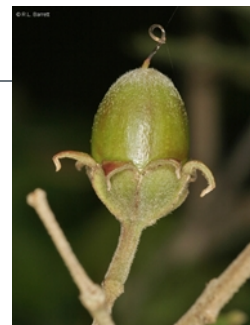
Flower. © R.L. Barrett



Leaves and Flowers. © CSIRO



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Scale bar 10mm. © CSIRO



10th leaf stage. © CSIRO



Cotyledon stage, epigeal germination. © CSIRO



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