

Please Read First -**You may save an email to customer service**  
**“Yellow Sheet” Planting/Growing/Pruning Instructions**

We have found in over 40 years of selling Crape Myrtles that 90% of the people do not read the instructions. Their next door neighbor the Master Gardener knows everything. This is sad because these same 90% do not know what “going dormant” means or why their leaves are yellow or red(when shipping). Most Americans don't know that some trees lose their leaves in Winter. They would rather call us and scream their plants are dead or dying or they don't have any leaves and must be dead. Never dig up plants if the tops appear dead the 2<sup>nd</sup> growing year. They will sprout back from the roots.

They could save so much time and frustration by just reading THESE INSTRUCTIONS.

**Crape Myrtles are now being grown in ALL US GROWING ZONES. This is the Best Crape Myrtle Instruction-Growing sheet in the US. Is written for ALL GROWING ZONES. Use best judgement for Your Individual Zone.**

**The Hottest New Trend in Trees! 2, 3 or more different colored Flowers on the Same Tree!**

With Crape Myrtles its always OK to put 2 -3 or more plants in the same hole. If you put 3 Different Colors in the same hole and pull them together until the stems are touching with 2-3 Zip Ties you can get 1 plant with 3 different color flowers! Amaze your neighbors with a 1 Crape Myrtle with 3 different color flowers! For example if you buy our 3 plant special price(write in Discount Code “GREATDEAL” offer and get a Tuscarora, Natchez and Muskogee you will get a single tree with Red-White- Blue Flowers! You can do this with ANY 3 colors-varieties you want. Takes a year for the 3 plants to fuse together. Can mix Dwarfs-Mini's-Trees together-no problem. Betcha can't do this with any other so called “fast growing trees”.

**In Spring you MUST PROTECT plants from FROSTS.** Must follow this Yellow Sheet instruction for Best Long Term Growth. **Do not fertilize the 1<sup>st</sup> year. Do not water every day. Follow instructions to the letter.**

**MUST READ THIS IN FALL AND WINTER SEPT-MARCH.** All Fall Shipped Crapes will begin to show fallen leaves or damaged looking leaves. Not necessary is grab the phone and tell us “their crape myrtles are dead or diseased”. Please remember that some plants begin to drop their leaves in Fall(that's September) or the crape myrtle leaves change colors to orange-red-yellow and then then to begin to drop-often in the box(that's called Deciduous). Some Crapes that we ship for Winter Planting may not even have any leaves!(that's called Dormant) THEY ARE NOT DEAD. They are simply going through their normal life cycle. FOLLOW THIS SHEET and PLANT THEM. DO NOT FERT in FALL OR WINTER. Calif. NEMA Certification #0255. USDA Cert #FL0883. Certified All States.

**DO NOT FERTILIZE THE FIRST YEAR and DO NOT WATER EVERY DAY.** Watering Every day is the biggest reason customers kill newly planted Crape Myrtles. Do not listen to your Master Gardener Brother in Law who grows tomatoes.

**Northern areas:**

We now have Crapes growing just about everywhere, here are some hints if you are in the NORTH(you are in the North if you have Cold Winters):

- 1) DO NOT fertilize the FIRST YEAR. Do NOT overwater Crapes, No Daily Watering.
- 2) STOP ALL CARE including watering in September to toughen them up for Winter.
- 3) All Crapes usually come back from the roots in **August** so don't dig them up even if the tops are dead and brittle. This happens in severe winters.
- 4) Mulch 2"-4". Some people cover and wrap them in severe cold.

**(Take your crapes out of the bag and look for the popsickle stick name tag)**

**2 Letter Abbreviation:** Each TAG is labeled with 2 Letters ie, WF stands for Worlds Fair, Ho stands for Hopi, NO stands for New Orleans, Zu stands for Zuni etc. etc. This tells you what varieties you bought. Compare these 2 letters with the Invoice which we return to you.

**Plants are intentionally shipped dry.** Water plants immediately. Place the plants in the sun and in about a week you will see all the dormant buds begin to grow and **the plants will come back fuller and with more branches** than when they left the nursery. Remember, these crape myrtles can take a lot of cold weather if they are first acclimated to the cold.

**Is there a secret to growing beautiful Crape Myrtles?**

Yes, and that secret is using a **peat moss based potting soil in the hole you dig.** (See other side) Picture in your mind a one gallon milk jug. That is the size of the hole you will dig for every Crape you are planting. Throw the dirt you dig away. Fill the hole with Miracle Grow potting soil(has peat moss in it) and take the Crape out of the pot and stick it down into the soil just a little lower, deeper than what it was in the pot. Water and mulch it. They love pine bark and compost mixed into the Miracle Grow. Start on next pot.

**Best All-Round Insecticide Fungicide: BAYER OR ORTHO Insect, Disease and Mite Control (in blue bottle, every 2 weeks)**

**Light:** They grow best in full sun and up to partial shade.

**Soil Type:** Crape Myrtles grow in all soil types. Follow planting instructions on other page. For MINI pots, whiskey barrels and hanging baskets use a light peat moss based soil(like Miracle Grow) for fastest growth and flowering.

**Watering:** They do well in any moisture situation from semi-dry to rainy. Do not water every day.

**Fertilizing:** Fertilize during second growing season with any of the water-soluble fertilizers such as Peters or Miracle Grow. Any analysis(like 20-20-20) about every 2 weeks works well. Osmocote type fertilizers also work well.

**PRUNING:**

Crape Myrtles are the most Pruneable woody plants in the world. They may be pruned almost any time of the year.

**NEVER TOO HOT for CRAPES** \_Plant Crape Myrtles in the hottest temperatures. Over 100+F no problem. Remember---it may be hot for people but it is never too hot to plant Crapes.