

PLANTS ARE STUNTED AND DO NOT GROW WELL (Continued...)

Low Fertility

A soil analysis will tell you the soil pH and fertility levels so that deficiencies can be corrected. Your local county extension service may provide this service.

(Reference Page: General Growth Requirements)

Dwarf Variety

There are many varieties of different mature sizes to choose. Select named varieties of crapemyrtles and find out their growth characteristics before purchasing

(Reference Page: General Growth Requirements)

LEAVES ARE CURLED AND STUNTED, AND A BLACK MOLD MAY BE PRESENT ON LEAVES, TWIGS AND BRANCHES

Aphids

Encourage beneficial insects such as lady beetles. Wash aphids from plant with a forceful spray of water. Use insecticidal soaps or other environmentally friendly pesticides. Often, a black mold is associated with the feeding of insects such as aphids which secrete honeydew (undigested plant sap). This sticky, sugary solution serves as a food source for the Sooty mold fungus. Sooty mold is not harmful to the plant and will eventually disappear if the aphids are controlled.

(Reference Page: Aphids)

LEAVES ARE EATEN AWAY OR SKELETONIZED (LEAF TISSUE EATEN BETWEEN VEINS)

Japanese Beetles

Japanese beetles feed on over 400 species of ornamental trees and shrubs. Their larvae (grubs) are a severe pest of lawns. There are many insecticides labeled for control of this pest. Traps will provide limited use, but do not hang traps on or near plants that the beetles are feeding.

(Reference Page: Japanese Beetles)

Leaf Beetles (Chrysomelidae)

Other small leaf beetles will sometimes feed on crape myrtles. The larvae and the adults will be found feeding on the leaves. There are many insecticides which will provide control.

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