



# Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

## Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

**Botanical Name:** *Malus spectabilis* (MAs)

**Common Name:** Chinese flowering crab apple

### Species Description

- Deciduous
- Small upright spreading tree
- Shiny to scaly grayish-brown bark
- Bright green glossy leaves with a serrate margin
- Dark pink buds fading to pale pink as they come into flower in single or [semi-double](#) arrangements in spring
- Small 2 centimetres wide sour yellow crab apples in low production

### Height and width

7 metres tall by 5 metres wide

### Species origin

China

### Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required:  $\geq 15\text{m}^3$
- Ideal for urban parks and shopping centre precincts
- Can be high pruned for use as a street tree
- Suitable for use in home gardens
- Should not be planted near nature reserves, creeks or watercourses, or within 2m of hydraulic services

### Use considerations

- Performs well in Canberra's climate
- High frost tolerate to minus 10 degrees Celsius and high drought tolerance
- Suits most soils, preferring good drainage
- Grows well in full sun to part shade
- [Medium longevity](#)
- Moderate growth rate
- Very low flammability
- Can be susceptible to woolly aphids
- Formative pruning can be undertaken to create a single trunked form for high clearance
- Produces significant nectar which attracts bees and fruit is attractive to birds

### Examples in Canberra

Hobson Place, Ainslie and near Menzies Library, ANU campus

### Availability

Commercially available

