



# Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

## Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

**Botanical Name:** *Acer platanoides* 'Crimson King' (ACpk)

**New species**

**Common Name:** Purple Norway maple

### Species Description

- Deciduous
- Medium sized tree with rounded crown
- Greyish-black, lightly textured bark
- Purple [palmately lobed](#) leaves throughout the growing season, changing to red, brown and orange in autumn
- Reddish-orange flowers in clusters in spring
- Brown-green double-winged [samaras](#)

### Height and width

15 metres tall by 10 metres wide

### Species origin

Northern Europe; the cultivar was a chance seedling from *Acer platanoides* 'Schwedleri' (Belgium) that was introduced in the USA in 1947

### Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required:  $\geq 45\text{m}^3$
- Can be used as a street tree in older suburbs where hot summer winds will not scorch leaves
- Suitable for use in parks, commercial areas and home gardens; not suitable for natural areas

### Use considerations

- Suits all areas of the ACT, except new [greenfield](#) developments where leaf burn may occur in summer with hot winds and inadequate watering, especially during the establishment stage
- High frost tolerance and moderate drought tolerance
- Will grow in most soils, including clay
- [Medium longevity](#)
- Moderate growth rate
- Very low flammability
- Shallow root system could lead to future maintenance requirements
- Produces significant nectar and pollen which attract bees and other pollinators

### Examples in Canberra

Not known in Canberra in public plantings

### Availability

Commercially available

