



# Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

## Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

**Botanical Name:** *Melia azedarach* 'Caroline' (MEc)

**New species**

**Common Name:** Chinaberry, Cape lilac

### Species Description

- Deciduous
- Medium sized tree with a dense, rounded canopy
- Dark grey-brown bark, becoming fissured with age
- Deep green glossy foliage turning yellow in autumn
- Lilac flowers in spring
- Yellow berries persisting through the winter; this grafted form is reputed to drop less fruit than the common seedling grown *Melia*

### Height and width

8 metres tall by 7 metres wide

### Species origin

A grafted form of *Melia azedarach* from Australia

### Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required:  $\geq 15\text{m}^3$
- Useful as a street tree, in parks and in home gardens
- Should not be planted near nature reserves, creeks or watercourses

### Use considerations

- High frost tolerance and drought tolerance once established
- Tolerates a wide variety of soils, from clay to sandy loams
- [Medium to long lived](#)
- Moderate to fast growth rate
- Low flammability
- Responds well to formative pruning
- Produces nectar and pollen; attracts bees
- Can be a problem near waterways, but this low fruiting variety may be less of a problem
- Fruit drop may be a minor nuisance in pedestrian or paved areas

### Examples in Canberra

National Arboretum Canberra

### Availability

Commercially available

