

10 Great Trees of B.C.



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada

Canadian
Forestry
Service

Service
canadien des
forêts

For more copies write:

**Pacific Forestry Centre
Canadian Forestry Service**

506 West Burnside Road
Victoria, B.C. V8Z 1M5

THEIR PROPERTIES AND USES:

Forward:

Forests provide much enjoyment and many useful products for mankind. While trees are in their long growth cycle forests may be used by campers, hikers, hunters and fishermen. When they reach maturity in a commercial forest they yield lumber, plywood, paper – more than 5,000 different products. Professional Foresters help look after the forests. They seed and plant open areas and protect the forests from fire, insects and disease to promote forest health and productivity and assuring that when harvested the forest will again return with its many benefits.

Knowing the characteristics of each tree will help you understand and appreciate them more fully.

Western Larch:

The wood is heavy, hard and strong, in this respect resembling Douglas fir more than any other Canadian softwood. The wood, although it may warp and check, is about equal to Douglas fir in durability. Principal uses, poles, flooring, heavy construction.

True Firs:

The wood of all three is soft and light in colour with *Abies amabilis* slightly darker. They are widely used in residential and light construction — framing, utility and specialty materials.

Lodgepole Pine:

Most important in the interior. The wood is light in color, soft, straight-grained and of fine even texture. General uses — studs, railway ties, poles and timbers and general purpose lumber.

Western White Pine:

Wood is very light in color, straight-grained and uniform in texture. Uses — wood paneling, woodwork, pattern making, siding, box shuck and specialty purpose.

Ponderosa Pine:

The wood is either dark or light yellow in color, fairly soft and uniform in texture. General uses — lumber for home building, furniture and specialty products.

White Spruce:

Creamy white to pinkish in color fairly light and straight grained. Works easily and smooth finish with good nailing qualities — used in house building.

Engelman Spruce:

Wood is nearly white in color and is smooth, soft-textured. It is odorless and tasteless. Wide range of uses from rough construction to fine interior finish and specialty products.

Western Red Cedar:

The wood is straight-grained, light, soft and distinguished by its pinkish red to deep-brown color. Used for lumber for many building purposes, poles, ties, siding shakes and shingles.

Douglas Fir:

The wood is heavy, hard, very strong and straight-grained. Color contrast between spring and summer wood very pronounced. An all purpose wood it is normally used for residential building, light and heavy construction, plywood, woodwork, industrial usage, poles, ties, and specialty products.

Western Hemlock:

Wood is strong, free from pitch ranging in color from a pleasing off-white to a reddish brown heartwood. Used for residential and commercial construction and paneling.

Western Larch



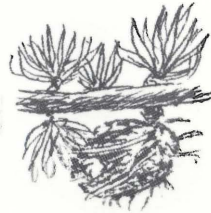
Height—100 to
180 feet



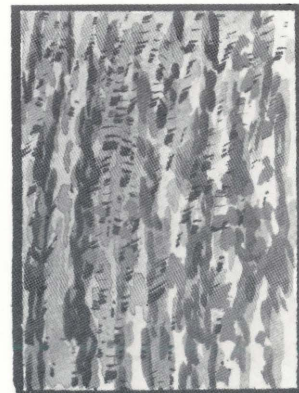
Needles—
Arranged in
clusters of 14-30,
1-2 inches long.



Cones—1-½
inches long with
bract protruding
from each cone
scale.



Bark—Reddish brown. Flat plates
on mature trees.



True Fir



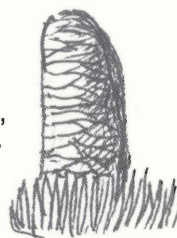
Height—100 to
125 feet



Needles—1-2
inches long. Flat
sprays. On some
crowded to upper
side of twig.



Cones—Upright,
3-5 inches high.



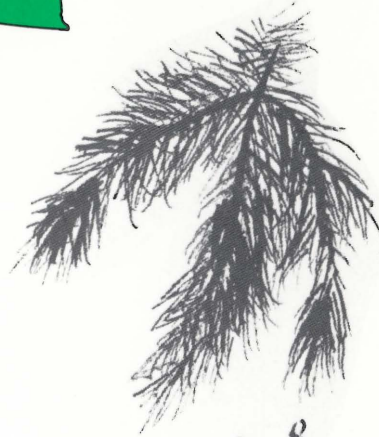
Bark—Gray to red, brown on mature
trees. Resin blisters on young bark.
Smooth to rough.



Lodgepole Pine



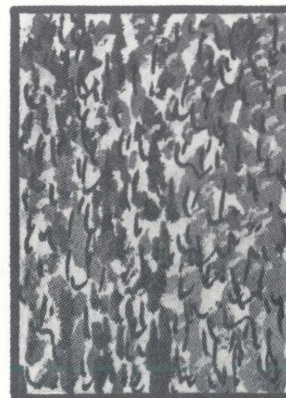
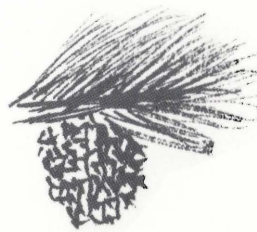
Height—70 to 100 feet



Needles—1-3 inches long, in bundles of 2

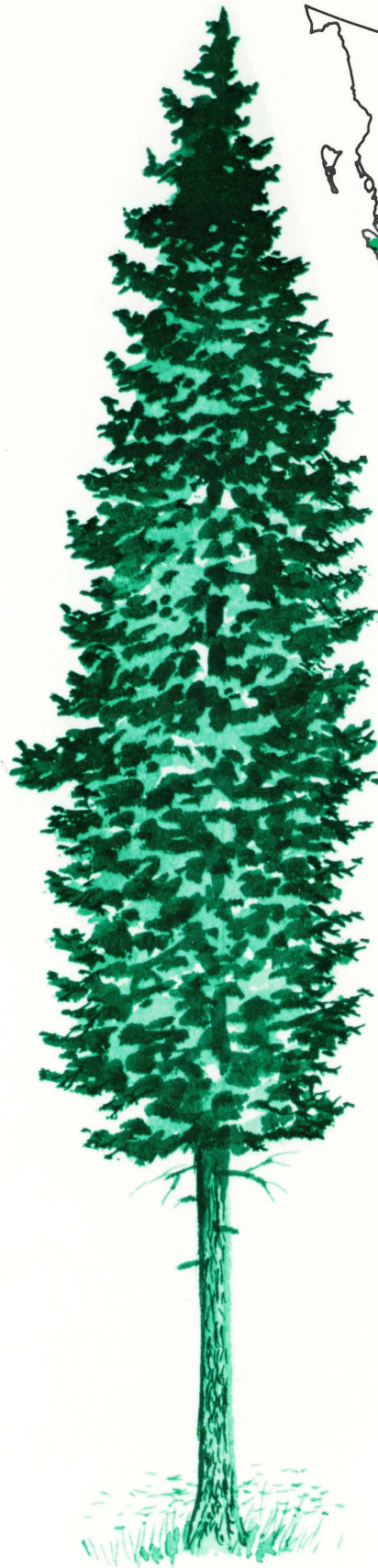


Cones—1-2 inches long. Cones adhere to branches.

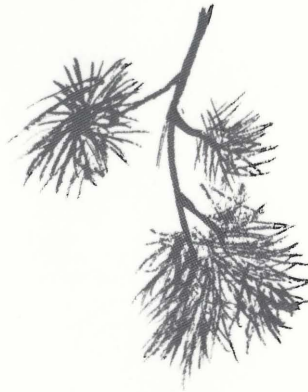


Bark—Black to reddish brown, thin and scaly.

White Pine



Height—150 to
180 feet



Needles—2-4
inches long in
bundles of 5

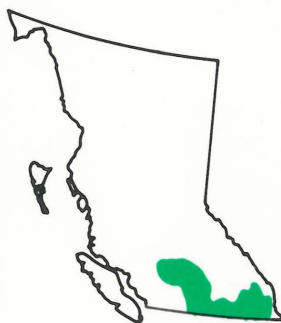


Cones—4-10
inches long.
Curved when dry.

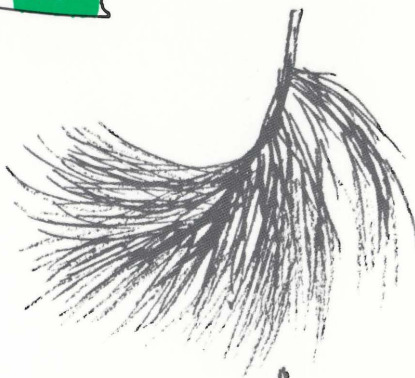


Bark—Dark gray. Broken into small
square blocks on mature trees.

Ponderosa Pine



Height—160 to
170 feet



Needles—Over 4
inches long in
bundles of 2-5,
common in 3



Cones—Over 3
inches long, broad
and scaly, sharp
prickles.

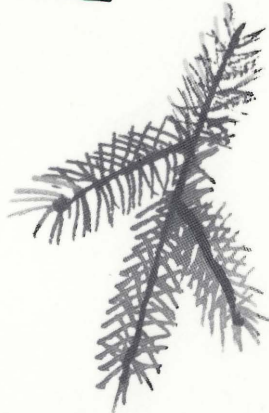


Bark—Thick, reddish brown, deeply
furrowed into long, flat, scaly plates.

White Spruce



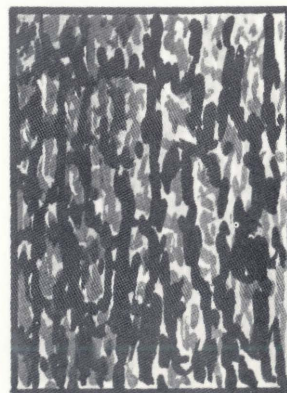
Height—120 feet



Needles—Stiff, sharp-pointed. $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 inch long.



Cones—Cylindrical, 1-2 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches long—about 1 inch in diameter when open.



Bark—Thin, covered with small greyish brown scales.

Engelmann Spruce



Height—100 to
150 feet



Needles—1 inch
long. Stiff.
Disagreeable odor
when crushed.



Cones—1-3 inches
long with thin,
papery scales.



Bark—Reddish brown, very thin and
scaly.

Western Red Cedar



Height—150 to 200 feet



Needles—None.
Small, overlapping
scale-like leaves
that form sprays.



Cones— $\frac{1}{2}$ inch
long. Brown, thin,
frequently spine-
tipped.



Bark—Cinnamon red on young trees,
gray on old. Fibrous closely
interlaced.

Douglas-Fir



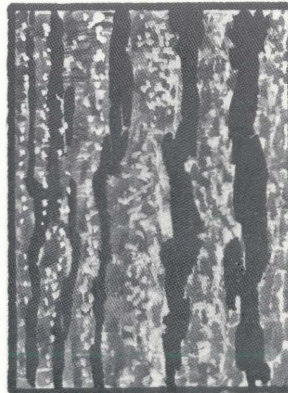
Height—150 to 200 feet.



Needles— $\frac{3}{4}$ - $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches long. Borne all around twig soft to touch.



Cones—Pendent. 3-4 inches long with 3 pointed bract protruding from scales.



Bark—Dark, grey brown. Deeply furrowed on mature trees.

Western Hemlock



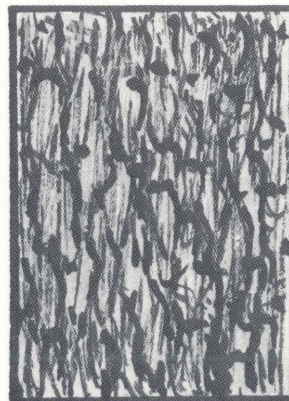
Height—120 to 180, nodding, whip-like tip.



Needles— $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inches round, pointed, flat distinctly stalked.



Cones— $\frac{3}{4}$ to 1 inch long, egg-shaped, thin scaled with wavey edges.



Bark—Russet brown, covered with fine scales becoming darker and furrowed into flat, scaly ridges.