

BALSAM FIR



A. Identification:

- regular crown which gradually changes to a pointy, slim, top
- **leaves**--needle-like, short, flat and 1 to 1.5 cm long
- **flower**---yellowish and red with 3mm long purple are the male flowers
---female flowers are 2-3 cm long and are purplish
- **cones**----are roundish and sit up on branches in the crown
- **bark**----is grayish and smooth
----- with age the bark breaks into brownish scales
- **wood**----is light and soft
-----is weak and can break easier
-----is odorless
---- wood is white with little change in color between early wood and late wood

B. Distribution and Location:

---in Canada it is found from Newfoundland and Labrador, in northern portions of Quebec and Ontario, scattered areas in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and up to northern Alberta

C. Climate:

---grows best in eastern part of Canada because this area has cool temperatures and lots of moisture

<p>D. Habitat: ---can grow in a variety of soils and climates ---grows in pure stands or mixed with Trembling Aspen, White Birch, and White and Black Spruce</p>
<p>E. Growing characteristics: ---medium-sized trees which grow up to 25 m tall, 70 cm in diameter and up to 150 years old</p>
<p>F. Reproduction: ---by seed</p>
<p>G. Uses: i) modern---used mostly in pulp and lumber industry ---used a lot for Christmas trees in certain parts of Canada ii) traditional---used as a medicine for colds ---its glue is used for glass and making eye glass lenses ---wood is used for paper manufacturing</p>
<p>H. Fun Facts: ---wildlife need this tree for food and shelter ---this fir tree has been a favorite Christmas tree for more than 400 years</p>

Bibliography:

Trees in Canada by John Laird Farrar pages 84-85

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