

WHITE SPRUCE (*Picea glauca*)



A. Identification:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Leaves—needle-like on upper sides of branches <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ---are dark green to dark blue ---in cross-section needles are diamond shaped 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cones—3 to 5 cm in length <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ---have little or no stem attaching them to the branch ---cones are cylindrical, slender, and light green in color ---when mature they become light brown, purplish ---scales are round, smooth, and open when ripe 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Bark—smooth, light gray when young and dark gray and scaly with age <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ---under the bark it is salmon pink in color ---1/4 to 1/2 inch thick ---broken, irregular shaped scales 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wood—dries easily and moderately light in weight but strong and stiff <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ---straight, even-grained ---wood is creamy white or straw colored 	
B. Distribution / Location:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • from Newfoundland / Labrador to west across Canada • found along the northern limit of trees from Hudson Bay, North West Territories, and the Yukon 	
C. Habitat / Climate:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • found in the northern forest and found near Arctic tree line • grows in a variety of different soils and different climate conditions • it is “shade tolerant” 	

<p>D. Growing Characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> grows about 25m tall and 60 cm in diameter crown is conical, ragged with lots of foliage branches are horizontal or upward, root system is shallow, tough and widespread
<p>E. Reproduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> begins seed production about age 4 but doesn't produce in large quantity until age 30 seed dispersal is helped by wind (from 1 m to 400 m), and red squirrels, insects use seeds as food seeds overwinter under snow and germinate in spring
<p>F. Uses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> traditional: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> saplings used to make snowshoe frames and bows resin used as glue to fasten skins onto bows and arrowheads to shafts decayed wood used for tanning hides bark used for making baskets, cooking pots, and trays modern: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> used for shelter-belt planting to protect other crops or gardens important commercially for pulpwood and construction lumber such as paddles, oars, cabinets, boxes, food containers Christmas trees
<p>F. Fun Facts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the bark, branches, buds, and seeds from this tree are a meal for deer, rabbits, porcupines, birds, and small rodents the white spruce can live between 150-200 years trees up to 1000 years old have been found north of the Arctic Circle

Bibliography:

<http://www.nearctica.com/trees/conifer/picea/Pglauca.htm>

<http://www.rook.org/earl/bwca/nature/trees/piceaglauca.html>

<http://botit.botany.wisc.edu/images/veg/Boreal/White> spruce-ice effect Gk. html

<http://bolt.lakeheadu.ca/~borfor/nwwood.htm#glauca>

<http://www.hww.ca/hww2.asp?id=354> (forest resources)

