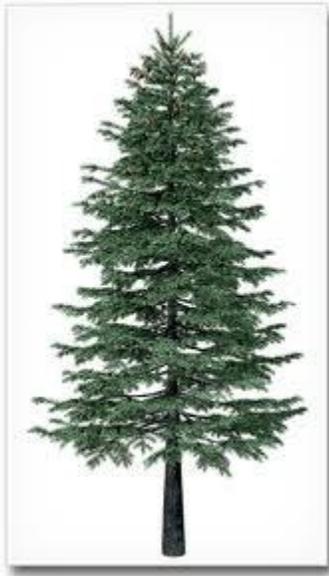


WHITE SPRUCE



A. Identification:

- **Leaves** --needle-like on upper branches
--are dark green to dark blue
--in a cross-section needles are diamond shaped
- **Cones**---3 to 5 cm in length
---have little or no stem
---cones are round, thin, and light green in color
---when they are older the cones become light brown, purplish
---scales are round, smooth, and open when ripe
- **Bark**---smooth, light gray when young and dark gray and scaly with age
---under the bark it is salmon pink in color
---1/4 to 1/2 inch thick
---broken looking scales
- **Wood**---dries easily and does not weight a lot but is strong and stiff
--- is straight and even-grained
--- is creamy white or straw colored

B. Location:

- 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:

- found in the northern forest and found near Arctic tree line
- grows in many different soils and different climates
- it can grow in the shade

D. Growing Characteristics:

- grows about 25m tall and 60 cm in diameter
- the top of the tree is shaped like a cone with lots of leaves
- branches are horizontal
- roots are not deep but are tough and are spread out

E. Reproduction:

- begins making seeds about age 4 but doesn't make many seeds until age 30
- seeds are spread by the wind
- red squirrels and insects use seeds as food
- seeds overwinter under snow and begin to grow in the spring

F. Uses:

- **traditional:**

- saplings used to make snowshoe frames and bows
- resin used as a glue to fasten bows and arrows together
- decayed wood used for tanning hides
- bark used for making baskets, cooking pots, and trays

- **modern**---used for shelter-belt planting to protect other crops or gardens
 - used for pulpwood, lumber and making things such as paddles, oars, boxes, and food containers
 - Christmas trees

F. Fun Facts:

- 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

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