

Introduced Pines

SCOTS (SCOTCH) PINE

Pinus sylvestris L.

Scots pine is a native of northern Europe, and there grows to a tall timber tree in dense stands. It will grow on very poor soils. There are many strains of this species, some producing poor growth habits. This plus its susceptibility to snow, porcupine, and bird injury makes it undesirable to plant for timber production. Some strains are planted for Christmas trees.

The foliage is usually a dull blue - green. Needles are short, stiff, twisted, 1½ - 3 inches long and borne in fascicles of 2.

Cones are 1½ - 2 inches long and numerous, even on comparatively young trees. The bark in the crown region of medium to large trees is of a conspicuous orange - brown coloration.



AUSTRIAN PINE

Pinus nigra Arnold

Austrian or European black pine is a native of Europe, has been planted as a decorative tree. It makes rapid growth even on very poor soils, and will flourish on limestone soils, or in the smoke of cities and factories. It also grows well near the sea because of its tolerance to salt spray.

The foliage is very dense and dark green, almost black in color. The long, sharp - pointed leaves are borne in fascicles of 2 and do not break cleanly when doubled between the fingers.

It closely resembles our native red pine, but the bark is darker brown to black and buds are pitch covered. Cones are 2 - 3½ inches long, armed with sharp prickles.



MUGO PINE

Pinus mugo Turra

Mugo pine is a native of the mountainous regions of Europe. It has a dwarf, spreading form. Leaves are dark yellow - green, usually not twisted, 1 - 3 inches long and in clusters of 2. Cones are 1 - 2 inches long. It is planted for ornament and on dry, gravelly slopes, for roadside beautification.