

QUICK FACTS: *PINUS CONTORTA* – LODGEPOLE PINE

Indigenous name: apahtó'kii (Káínai dialect)

Where to find in BC: Interior, mid elevation-subalpine

Habitat: highly variable; wet bogs, dry sandy soils, post-wildfire soils, dense stands

Characteristics:

- Leaves: dark green, 2-needled, needles spiral, sharp point
- Cones: short/cylindrical/egg-like, 2-4 cm long, no stalks, seed scales with sharp tips
- Bark: orange-brown, thin, fine-scaled

Indigenous uses: shelter, food, medicines

Industry uses: construction, doors, furniture, fencing, etc.



QUICK FACTS: *LARIX OCCIDENTALIS* – WESTERN LARCH

Indigenous name: k'ustit' (Ktunaxa dialect)

Where to find in BC: valleys, lower mountain slopes in southern Interior, towards AB & USA borders

Habitat: mixed forests, pure stands post-severe wildfire, needs full sun

Characteristics:

- Leaves: deciduous, needles clustered in bunches of 10-15 on woody stubs along twigs, light green & turn yellow in fall
- Cones: elongated, red/reddish-brown, scales with white hairs on lower surface, long slender bracts, yellow pollen cones
- Bark: older thick & grooved, 'plate-like' bark, cinnamon colour

Indigenous uses: used dried pitch as ingredient in many mixtures

Industry uses: very strong wood for construction, railways, and pilings



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QUICK FACTS: *PSEUDOTSUGA MENZIESII* – DOUGLAS-FIR

Indigenous name: lá:yelhp (Coast Salish Halkomelem dialect)

Where to find in BC: coastal variety found through southern mainland & across Vancouver Island; interior variety found through southern Interior & up north to mid-province

Habitat: interior variety in open forests; coastal variety in mixed-stands with dense shrubs

Characteristics:

- Leaves: flat needle leaves with pointed tip, top side bright yellow-green with groove down middle, bottom side more pale.
- Cones: 5-11 cm long, green when young & brown-grey when mature, three-pronged bract between each scale, winged tip seeds
- Bark: smooth & grey-brown when young, resin filled cracks, thicker & deeply grooved with red-brown ridges when older

Indigenous uses: fuel from wood, boughs for covering lodge floors, made tools from wood

Industry uses: heavy-duty construction, commercial building



Source: <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/library/documents/treebook/douglasfir.htm>

QUICK FACTS: *POPULUS TRICHOCARPA* – BLACK COTTONWOOD

Indigenous name: nekw'nikw'az (Sekw'el'was dialect)

Where to find in BC: West of the Rocky Mountains

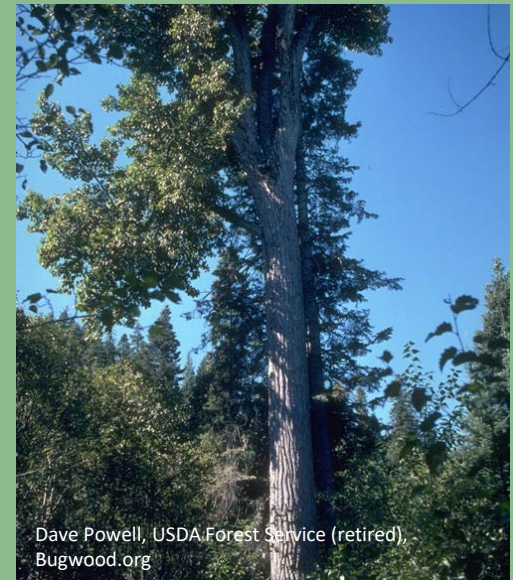
Habitat: moist, nutrient rich soil, floodplains, shade-intolerant, open canopy

Characteristics:

- Leaves: dark green, shiny, pale underside, oval to wedge-shaped, sharp pointed tip, brown markings common
- Flowers: male & female catkins on separate trees, female longer than male
- Fruit: white hairy seed capsules
- Bark: smooth & yellow-grey on young trees, thick with deep grooves on older trees

Indigenous uses: canoes, sideboards, cradles, soap, ash cleanser, medicine

Industry uses: tissues, various paper products



Source: <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/library/documents/treebook/blackcottonwood.htm>

QUICK FACTS: *PICEA GLAUCA* – WHITE SPRUCE

Indigenous names: ƛ̓isićq̓aƛ̓ (Ktunaxa dialect), ts'ū (Tahltan dialect), and t'sellp (Secwepemp dialect)

Where to find in BC: throughout Interior from valley floor to mid elevations; north of Dawson Creek

Habitat: wide range of environments, mixed hardwood & softwood stands

Characteristics:

- Leaves: four-sided, sharp, stiff needles; spiral arrangement
- Cones: light brown/purple colour, hang from upper branches; seed scale outer edges smooth & rounded; pale red pollen cones
- Bark: grey-brown, loose, scaly

Hybrid: interbreeds with Engelmann spruce (*Picea engelmannii*) in the central Interior where ranges overlap, hybrids known as 'interior spruce'

Indigenous uses: snowshoes, bows, glue, pigments, pots, trays

Industry uses: lumber and pulp

Source: <https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hfd/library/documents/treebook/whitespruce.htm>



QUICK FACTS: *PICEA ENGELMANNII* – ENGELMANN SPRUCE

Indigenous names: ƛisƛuƛaƛ (Ktunaxa dialect), ts'ū (Tahltan dialect), and t'sellp (Secwepemc dialect)

Where to find in BC: high elevations through Interior, east slope of Coast Range

Habitat: deep, rich, evenly moist soils

Characteristics:

- Leaves: four-sided, sharp; deep blue-green colour with two white bands on upper & lower surfaces; no pattern of needle arrangement
- Cones: yellow/purple-brown seed & pollen cones, hang from upper branches; seed scales papery & tapered at both ends, ragged outer edge
- Bark: loose, scaly, red-brown/grey

Hybrid: interbreeds with white spruce (*Picea glauca*) in the central Interior where ranges overlap, hybrids known as 'interior spruce'

Indigenous uses: baskets, canoes, roofing, baby carriers

Industry uses: low-strength construction, plywood, specialty items (e.g. violins)



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QUICK FACTS: *PINUS BANKSIANA* – JACK PINE

Indigenous name: akikaandag or okikaandag (Ojibwe dialect)

Where to find in BC: extreme northeast boreal forests

Habitat: dry/slightly dry soils, dry slopes in montane zone; establishes well post-wildfire

Characteristics:

- Leaves: 1-4 cm long needles, groups of 2, no twisting, deep green
- Cones: egg-shaped, stiff bracts, pollen cones red-green & clustered at branch tips
- Bark: medium thick, dark, scaly; ridges develop with age

Hybrid: interbreeds with lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*) where ranges overlap, known as *P. x murraybanksiana*

Indigenous uses: canoes

Industry uses: pulp, lumber, poles, railroad ties

