

FACT SHEET - Douglas-fir

Issue 5

Douglas-fir is the English name applied in common to evergreen coniferous trees of the genus *Pseudotsuga*, in the family Pinaceae.



Description

There are five species, two in western North America, one in Mexico, and two in eastern Asia.

The common name honours David Douglas, the Scottish botanist who first introduced *P. menziesii* into cultivation at Scone Palace in 1827. Douglas is known for introducing many North American native conifers to Europe. The hyphen in the name indicates that Douglas-firs are not true firs, not being members of the genus *Abies*.

Douglas-firs are medium-size to large evergreen trees, 20–120 metres (66–390 ft) tall. The leaves are flat, soft, linear, and completely encircle the branches (this can be useful in distinguishing it from other species), generally resembling those of the firs. The female cones are pendulous, with persistent scales (unlike true firs), and are distinctive in having a long tridentine (three-pointed) bract that protrudes prominently above each scale.

A California Native American myth explains that each three-ended bract is a tail and two tiny legs of the mouse that hid inside the scales of the tree's cones during forest fires, and the tree was kind enough to be its enduring sanctuary.

Uses

Douglas-fir wood is used for structural applications that are required to withstand high loads. It is used extensively in the construction industry. Douglas-fir is one of the most commonly marketed Christmas tree species in the United States, where they are sold alongside firs like Noble Fir and Grand Fir. Douglas-fir Christmas trees are usually trimmed to a near perfect cone instead of left to grow naturally like Noble and Grand firs.

STOCKS AVAILABLE:-

1"	1 ½"	2"	2 ½"	3"
	Widths		4" & Wider	
	Lengths		8fts & Longer	