

North Dakota Tree Selector

Scientific Name: *Pinus contorta var. latifolia*

Family: Pinaceae (Pine)

Hardiness: Zone 2

Leaves: Evergreen

Plant Type: Tree

Growth

Rate: Medium

Mature Height: >45'

Longevity: Long

Power Line: No

Ornamental

Flowers: Inconspicuous

Fruit: Brown cones

Fall Color: n/a

Lodgepole Pine

Description

A tall straight-trunked, narrow-crowned pine that is native to the Rocky Mountain and Cascade-Sierra ranges. This tree is a major timber species for dimension lumber. In dense stands it forms clean, gradually tapering stems which were used by Native Americans to make their lodges, hence the name "lodgepole pine."

Preferences

Light: Full sun only.

Water: Drought resistant.

Soil: Will grow in a variety of soils if well-drained.

Comments

There are four or five natural varieties of lodgepole pine; of these, the variety *latifolia* is best adapted to North Dakota conditions. In ornamental settings, lodgepole pines are common in English gardens and make an exceptionally handsome tree.

Two unique cultivars are:

'Frisian Gold' - Dwarf variety that turns gold during the winter.

'Taylor's Sunburst' - New spring growth has gold needles that last several weeks before turning green.

Credits: North Dakota Tree Selector Website, Manual of Woody Landscape Plants 6th edition.

