

F2181 (July 2024)

Joseph Zeleznik, Ph.D., Extension Forester

North Dakota Tree Selector

General

Scientific Name: *Pinus banksiana*

Family: Pinaceae (Pine)

Hardiness: Zone 3

Leaves: Evergreen

Plant Type: Tree

Growth

Rate: Fast

Mature Height: >45'

Longevity: Long

Power Line: No

Ornamental

Flowers: Inconspicuous

Fruit: Brown cone

Fall Color: n/a

Jack Pine

Description

A small to medium pine that quickly loses the pyramidal form characteristic of young pine and assumes an open, somewhat irregular crown. Fire often required to open cones and allow seed dispersal. Native in eastern North America, including Minnesota. The largest tree in North Dakota is 48 feet tall with a canopy spread of 40 feet.

Preferences

Light: Full sun.

Water: Requires consistent moisture for best growth, but highly drought tolerant.

Soil: Prefers sandy to loam soils. Cannot withstand high pH soils that are commonly found on the prairie.

Comments

Best grown in areas with cool summers and cold winters.

Well maintained trees typically have few problems. Not especially ornamental but is adaptable for windbreaks, shelterbelts and mass plantings. Valued for its hardiness and suitability to colder regions, as well as its drought tolerance.

