F2182 (July 2024)
Joseph Zeleznik, Ph.D., Extension Forester

The second of the second

General

Scientific Name: Pinus flexilis Family: Pinaceae (Pine) Hardiness: Zone 3 Leaves: Evergreen Plant Type: Tree

Growth

Rate: Slow

Mature Height: >45' Longevity: Long Power Line: No

Ornamental

Flowers: Inconspicuous Fruit: Brown cones Fall Color: n/a

Limber Pine

Description

A small-to-medium western pine with an uneven crown. Often multistemmed. This tree is less susceptible to salt and winterburn injury than other five-needle pines. Native to a very limited area in southwestern North Dakota, likely from seed carried to this site by early Native Americans. The largest tree in North Dakota is 39 feet tall with a canopy spread of 30 feet.

Preferences

Light: Full sun only.

Water: Somewhat drought tolerant. **Soil:** Prefers loams to sands.

Comments

Several cultivated varieties available, including several that were selected for their blue coloration. Other cultivars include:

Dwarf Limber Pine - Dwarf, bushy form.

'Vanderwolf's Pyramid' – A tree form with attractive blue-green needles and superior vigor.









Credits: Tree Selector Website, North Dakota Tree Handbook



North Dakota State University Fargo, North Dakota

The NDSU Extension does not endorse commercial products or companies even though reference may be made to tradenames, trademarks or service names. County commissions, North Dakota State University and U.S. Department of Agriculture cooperating. NDSU does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of age, color, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, participation in lawful off-campus activity, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, spousal relationship to current employee, or veteran status, as applicable. Direct inquiries to Vice Provost for Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 201, NDSU Main Campus, 701 231-7708, ndsu.eoaa@ndsu.edu. This publication will be made available in alternative formats for people with disabilities upon request, 701-231-7881.