

F2184 (July 2024)

Joseph Zeleznik, Ph.D., Extension Forester

North Dakota Tree Selector

General

Scientific Name: *Pinus mugo*

Family: Pinaceae (Pine)

Hardiness: Zone 2

Leaves: Evergreen

Plant Type: Tree

Growth

Rate: Slow

Mature Height: <25'

Longevity: Medium

Power Line: Yes

Ornamental

Flowers: Inconspicuous

Fruit: Brown cones

Fall Color: n/a

Mugo Pine

Description

A small- to large-sized shrubby evergreen which varies in form and size. The Swiss mountain pine (*P. mugo* ssp. *uncinata*) is a tree-form of mugo pine. Introduced from Europe in 1779. Needles persist for more than 5 years. Dark green color year-round and resists winter burn.

Preferences

Light: Full sun only.

Water: Drought resistant, no watering necessary.

Soil: Adaptable to many soil types.

Comments

Prized for its dwarf cultivars which are useful in landscape plantings, over 40 dwarf cultivars are available including some that are excellent for railroad and miniature gardens.

Two cultivars to consider are:

'Gnom' – Very dwarf mounded form.

'Mops' – Dwarf globe, 3 feet tall and wide.



Credits: Tree Selector Website, North Dakota Tree Handbook