



Colorado Blue Spruce

Picea pungens

Pinaceae

Description

Colorado Blue Spruce is native to the Rocky Mountains in Colorado and Utah. It gets its blue color from a waxy, powdery layer found on the needles. If the color fades, it's likely due to pest activity wearing the layer away. It provides habitat to birds, small mammals, and even butterflies. The sap from the tree is analgesic and has been used as makeshift bandages, similar to superglue. Tea can be made from the needles, younger ones being most sought after, and contain a high amount of vitamin C.

General Information

Zone: 2-6
Height: 40-60'
Width: 10-20'
Habit: Pyramidal
Growth Rate: 24" per year

Soil Texture: Clay, Loam, Sand

Soil pH: Acidic-Alkaline

Exposure: Full Sun

Water Needs: Average

Soil Drainage: Well-Drained

Other: Deer

Attributes: Tolerant, Wind Resistant

Fall Color: Green

Bloom Color: Yellow, Brown, Green, Red

Bloom Time: Spring, Summer

Fragrance: Yes

Fruit Color: Brown

Fruiting Time: Fall

Fruit Flavor: Inedible

Attracts: Butterflies, Birds, Small Mammals

Resources:

[Plants A to Z: Find Plant Names by Letter \(thespruce.com\)](http://thespruce.com)
[Find a Plant | NC Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox \(ncsu.edu\)](http://ncsu.edu)
[Trees and Plants | The Morton Arboretum](http://mortonarboretum.org)
[WSU PNW Plants](http://wsu.edu)

[The Tree Guide at arborday.org](http://arborday.org)
[Woody Plants Catalog | The UFOR Nursery & Lab \(um.edu\)](http://um.edu)
[Plant Finder \(missouribotanicalgarden.org\)](http://missouribotanicalgarden.org)
[N.D. Tree Handbook \(nds.edu\)](http://nds.edu)