

Leaves, Limbs, Needles and Boughs

by Fred D. Opperman

This month's selection is no doubt one of the most overlooked evergreens when one goes to choose a planting for the golf course or his home yard. It is one of the noblest forest trees, very ornamental under cultivation and an excellent specimen. This tree is not suited for an underplanting or windbreak and makes one of the best short-needled Christmas trees because the needles do not easily fall off as is the case with "Abies" (fir) and "Picea" (Spruce).

"Pseudotsuga menziesii" (soo-do-soo ga men-ze ze-i) Douglasfir

Needles: Have a V-shaped arrangement between the 2 lateral sets, straight, 1 to 1½ long, thin, dark green above, with 2 white bands of stomata beneath, smelling of camphor when bruised.

Stem: Yellowish green initially, becoming gray to brown, minutely pubescent or almost glabrous.

Cones: Three to 4" long, 1½ to 2" wide, light brown in color.

Size: Under landscape conditions will grow 40 to 80' in height with a 12 to 20' spread; can grow to 200' and greater in natural habitat.

Culture: Transplants well, prefers neutral or slightly acid, well drained moist soils, fails on dry, poor soils, prefers sunny open conditions. Injured by high winds. Medium rate of growth, will grow 12 to 15' in a 10 year period.

Credit: "Manual of Woody Landscape Plants," by Michael A. Dirr

State Rankings for 1990 / Golf Participation in the U.S.

Number of Golfers (To nearest thousand)		Participation Rate (Percentage of residents who play golf)	
1. California	2,624,000	1. Minnesota	17.6
2. New York	1,472,000	2. Wisconsin	16.6
3. Illinois	1,430,000	3. Utah	16.6
4. Texas	1,370,000	4. Iowa	15.2
5. Ohio	1,291,000	5. Michigan	14.9
6. Michigan	1,267,000	6. North Dakota	14.3
7. Florida	1,214,000	7. Idaho	13.9
8. Pennsylvania	939,000	8. Wyoming	13.9
9. Wisconsin	739,000	9. South Dakota	13.6
10. Minnesota	694,000	10. Illinois	13.4
11. New Jersey	661,000	11. Ohio	13.1
12. Massachusetts	629,000	12. Colorado	12.9
13. Indiana	614,000	13. New Mexico	12.6
14. North Carolina	570,000	14. Nevada	12.5
15. Washington	479,000	15. Kansas	12.1
16. Georgia	466,000	16. Indiana	12.1
17. Virginia	440,000	17. Nebraska	12.0
18. Missouri	433,000	18. Massachusetts	11.5
19. Colorado	407,000	19. Arizona	11.4
20. Iowa	395,000	20. Washington	11.2
21. Arizona	379,000	21. Oregon	11.2
22. Maryland	368,000	22. Montana	10.9
23. Kentucky	338,000	23. Vermont	10.8
24. Connecticut	327,000	24. Connecticut	10.8
25. Tennessee	294,000	25. Florida	10.3
26. Oregon	289,000	26. California	9.9
27. Kansas	276,000	27. Kentucky	9.8
28. South Carolina	268,000	28. Maine	9.6
29. Utah	250,000	29. North Carolina	9.4
30. Oklahoma	237,000	30. New Jersey	9.1
31. Louisiana	221,000	31. Missouri	9.1
32. Alabama	205,000	32. New York	8.9
33. Nebraska	177,000	33. South Carolina	8.7
34. New Mexico	177,000	34. Texas	8.6
35. Idaho	128,000	35. Delaware	8.5
36. Nevada	126,000	36. Maryland	8.5
37. Arkansas	123,000	37. Pennsylvania	8.4
38. West Virginia	113,000	38. Rhode Island	8.4
39. Maine	106,000	39. Oklahoma	7.9
40. Mississippi	106,000	40. Virginia	7.8
41. North Dakota	89,000	41. Georgia	7.8
42. South Dakota	88,000	42. New Hampshire	7.6
43. Montana	82,000	43. West Virginia	6.5
44. New Hampshire	79,000	44. Tennessee	6.5
45. Rhode Island	78,000	45. Arkansas	5.5
46. Wyoming	61,000	46. Alabama	5.4
47. Vermont	56,000	47. Louisiana	5.4
48. Delaware	52,000	48. Mississippi	4.4
49. District of Columbia	19,000	49. District of Columbia	3.2

(Alaska and Hawaii not listed due to insufficient data)

Source: National Golf Foundation Golf Participation in the U.S., 1990 Edition

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