

Sitka Spruce



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Picea sitchensis

PNW Native Plant

Conifer found from sea level
to 1000ft elevation

Unique Bark

Cultural Uses:

The roots are used to make water-tight hats and baskets and the pitch is chewed for pleasure or medicinal plasters, keeping a wound clean while healing. Roots can be heated, pounded and made into cordage. The spruce tips are edible and nutritious and used to make tea. It is considered to be uplifting and invigorating.



Ecology:

Mostly found on moist sites, marine terraces and avalanche tracks

Restoration and Landscape Uses:

Sitka Spruce prefers moist conditions and does well in full to partial sun light. Due to the sharp needles deer tend to avoid this sapling so a good choice to plant in areas with deer. The Spruce is a great tree for wetland areas but too large for a landscape setting. The tree can grow up to 200 feet tall.

Sitka Spruce



Distinctive bark red-dish-brown to grey-brown. The bark is broken up and scaly, looks like potato chips stuck to the tree.



Sitka Spruce, Olympic Rain Forest



Needles pointed with 2 white lines of stomata on upper surface



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Full sun

Part sun

Moist to wet soils

