

Jack Pine

Pinus banksiana

Height: up to 20 meters

Diameter: 25-60 centimetres

Distinguishing feature: Evergreen tree; paired, light green needles 2-5 cm long

USES

Historical -

Pine wood was mixed with rotten white spruce wood and burned slowly to tan hides. Pine wood has been used to make log cabins, sleds, toboggans, and floats for fishnets.

Commercial -

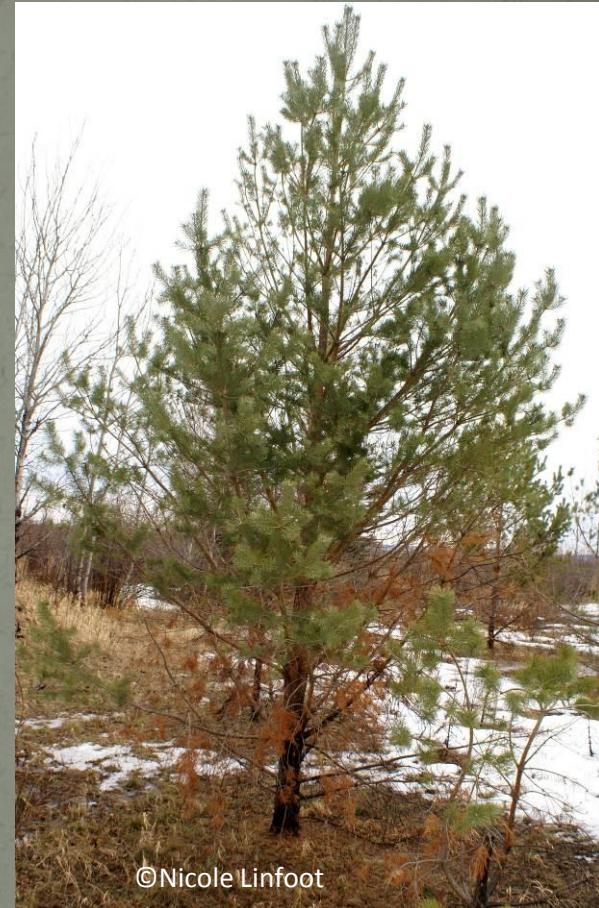
Jack Pine is an important commercial timber species in the United States and Canada. The moderately hard and heavy wood is used for pulpwood, lumber, telephone poles, fence posts, mine timbers, and railroad ties.

Natural -

The jack pine prefers low nutrient, sandy soils. Pines do well in these soils because their tap root goes very deep into the ground in search of water.

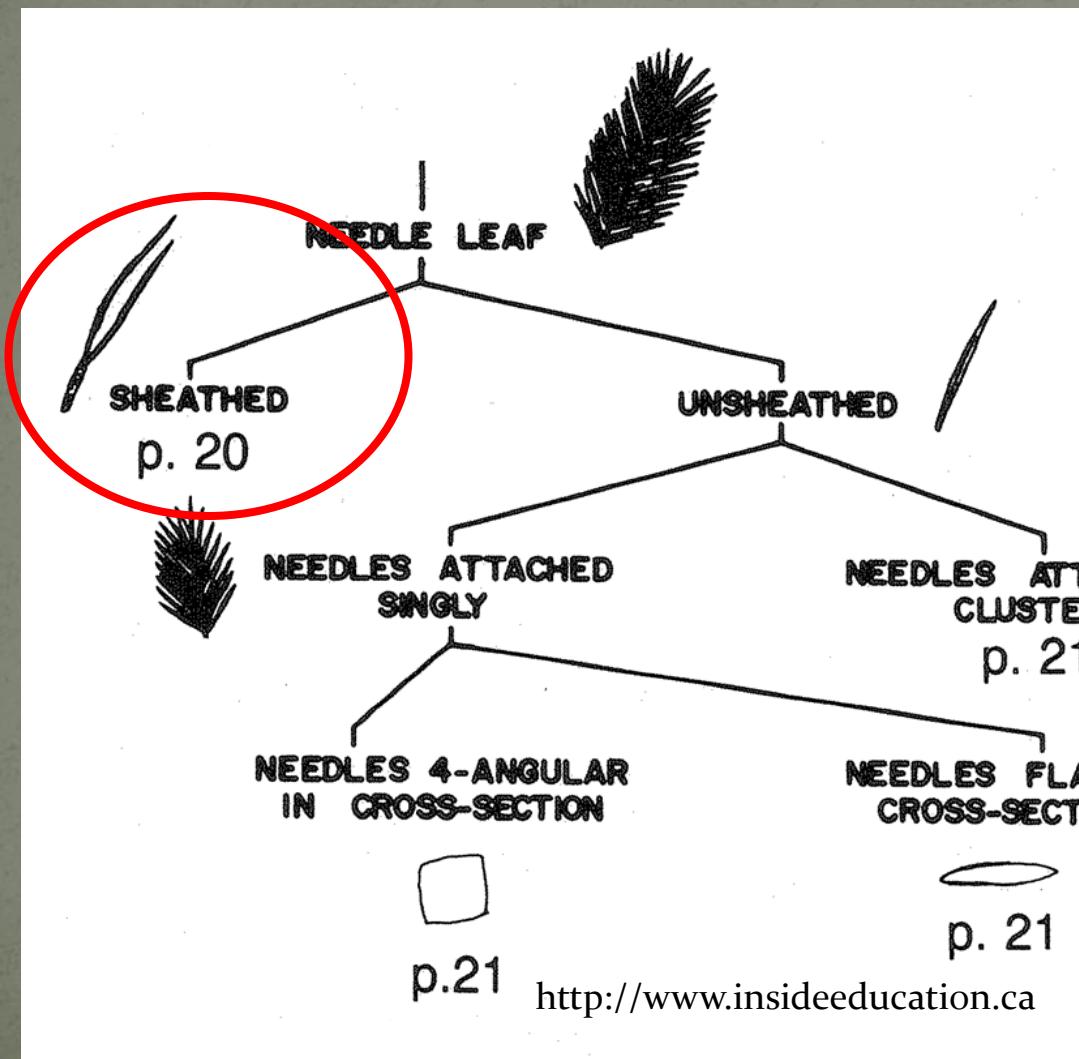
Medicinal -

The Chipewyan dried and pounded pine needles to make a powder for treating frost sores. The Woods Cree used the soft inner bark as a poultice on deep cuts. Pine bark tea was recommended for people with coughs. Over the years, pine oil and pine tar have been used as disinfectants, antiseptics, insecticides and deodorants.



©Nicole Linfoot

Identification



©Nicole Linfoot

Guide to the
Common Native
Trees and Shrubs
of Alberta



Inside
education

Government
of Alberta ■

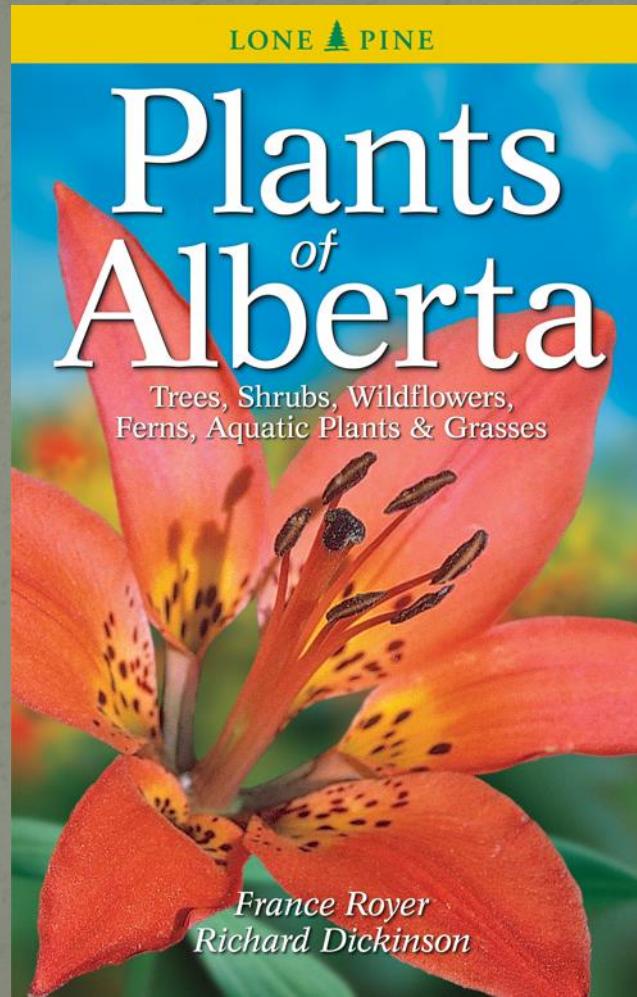
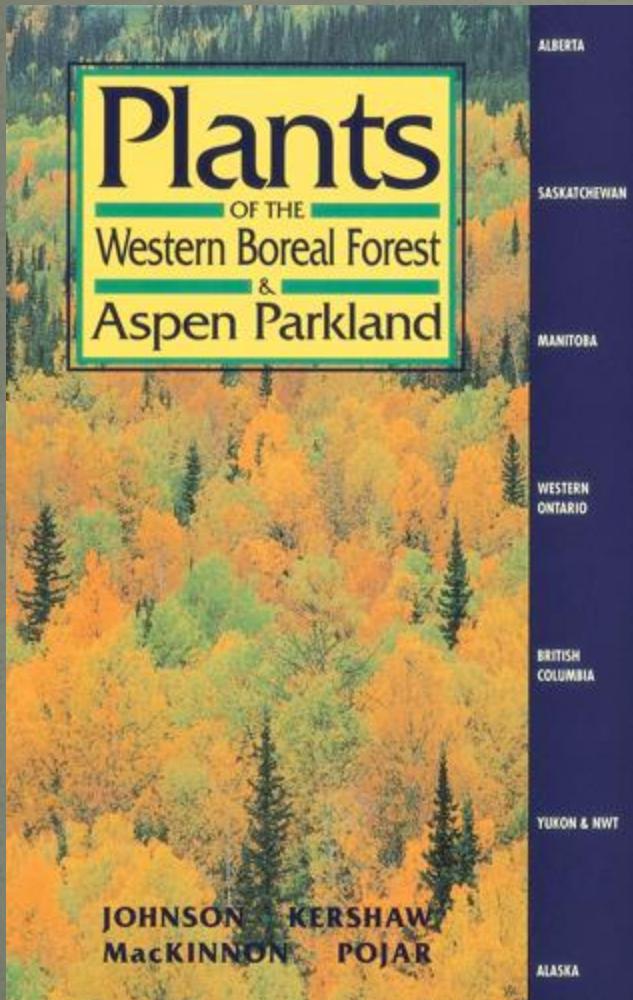
LESSER SLAVE
FOREST
EDUCATION
SOCIETY

Jack Pine

Pinus banksiana



Resources



Guide to the
Common Native
Trees and Shrubs
of Alberta



Government
of Alberta ■

<http://www.insideeducation.ca>

