

# Tamarack

*Larix laricina*

## Ecological Facts



Tamarack grows in sites that are cold and low in nutrients such as bogs and fens. It is the only native coniferous tree in the Boreal Forest that sheds its needles in the fall.

## Commercial Uses



Tamarack wood is heavy, durable, and resistant to rot which makes it good for posts, poles, and railroad ties.

## Medicinal Uses



Tea from the needles can be used to prevent scurvy, because they are high in Vitamin C. Tea made from the bark, needles, and roots is used by the Cree to treat sore muscles and arthritis.

## Traditional Uses



The flexible roots are peeled, split, and used to stitch the seams of birch bark canoes. The rotten wood is burned for smoking fish and smoke-tanning hides. Europeans used it to build ships as the wood was considered nearly indestructible.

# Tamarack

## Distinguishing Features:

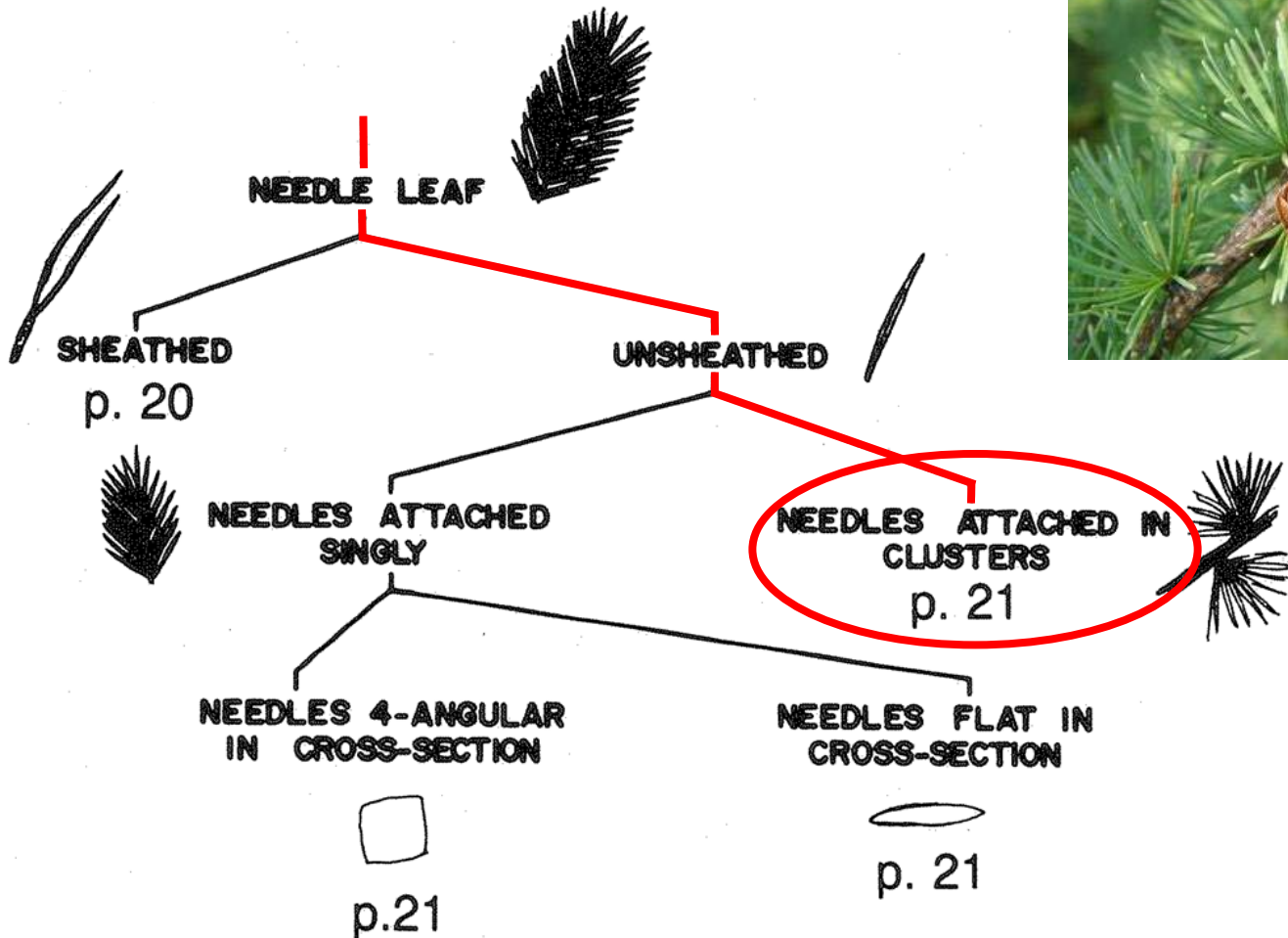
- Needles grow in clusters
- Needles turn yellow/brown and fall off in autumn



# Identification



©nicole Linfort





# Resources

