

Pinus bungeana - Lacebark Pine (*Pinaceae*)

Pinus bungeana is an excellent tree because of its dark needles and exfoliating bark. With age, the flaking bark creates a beautiful patchwork of colors ranging from white, red-brown, gray to green. Lacebark Pine is the perfect specimen tree for the small garden.

Form



FEATURES

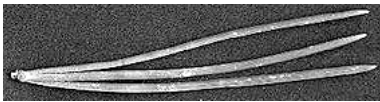
- evergreen tree, to 75' tall in its native China, but only 35' tall under Ohio conditions.
- in early stages, plants are somewhat pyramidal, but gradually become rounded and finally broad-spreading.
- upright mound, spreading with age
- slow growth rate

Culture

- full sun
- requires well-drained soils and will tolerate slightly alkaline conditions
- should not be exposed to extremes of soils or climatic conditions (that is, not particularly urban tolerant)
- generally free of pests and diseases
- propagated by seeds

Foliage

- 3 needles per fascicle (bundle)
- rigid, serrate, dark green
- 2-4" long
- needles persist 3-4 yrs.; this makes the tree particularly dense
- wide spaced fascicles give tree an open appearance



Flowers

- like all pines, Lacebark Pine is monoecious and the reproductive structures are cones. The cones are ornamentally insignificant.

Fruits

- cones are 2-3" long, brownish and resinous

Twigs

- grayish green
- glabrous (smooth and shiny)
- scaly bark on older branches

Trunk

- important ornamental feature
- bark is lightly exfoliating (peeling), showing multi-colored areas or green, gray and reddish tones
- reminiscent of Sycamore in pattern if not in color



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Function

- the plant makes a good specimen, particularly where the bark can be seen.
- can also be used on corners of large buildings
- good for medium-small areas because of its rather slow growth rate
- used best as limbed up specimen plant, particularly when the plant produces multiple branches close to the ground

Texture

- medium texture
- thick density

Assets

- spectacular exfoliating bark in older stems that become more vibrant if exposed to sun
- attractive multi-stemmed forms are available

Liabilities

- slow growth may limit its application
- multi-stemmed forms may split apart under heavy snow

Habitat

- Zones 4-8
- Native to China

SELECTIONS

Alternates

- other Pines with ornamental bark (e.g. *Pinus densiflora*, *Pinus nigra*)

Cultivars - Variants - Related species

- because of seed propagation, the form of different specimens can be somewhat variable
- Pinus bungeana* 'Compacta' – more compact habit than the straight species