

WACD PLANT MATERIALS CENTER

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Noble Fir (*Abies procera*)

Distribution

The native range of Noble Fir is limited to the Cascade and Coastal Ranges of the Pacific Northwest, particularly along the west slope and crest. It is usually found at elevations ranging from 3,000 to 5,000 feet.

Growth Habit

Noble Fir can reach 200 feet tall and the trunk can grow up to 4 feet in diameter. The conical form is supported by a smooth trunk with resin blisters when young and yields to brownish grey plates with age.

Adaptability

Noble Fir is adapted to grow throughout the region. It grows on a wide range of soils, providing adequate moisture and drainage is available. It grows on all landforms, from rugged slopes to valley bottoms, although stands are better suited to gentle terrain. It is not tolerant of much shade.

Comments

- Noble Fir is important ecologically, culturally, and economically.
- Its wood is the strongest of the true firs, as well as the largest. Its lumber is valued in the building industry. The high strength to weight ratio of the lumber has also made it useful in aircraft production, most notably the British Mosquito fighter in WW II.
- Noble Fir has become an ever increasingly important species in the Christmas tree industry.

