

Western yellow pine is abundant in the dry belt of the United States east of the coast mountains.

LODGEPOLE OR BLACK PINE (*Pinus contorta*)

This tree is the most accommodating and persistent of any of our forest trees. It is not at all exacting as to moisture or temperature or altitude. Once it has established a foothold it will thrive under all manner of conditions. Unfortunately, it has only a small commercial value. It rarely grows above two feet in diameter and 60 feet in height, and is usually only about one foot in diameter. As a rule it is only fit for mine timber and firewood, and is very resinous.

Black pine occurs in scattered areas all over the Province, more particularly upon sandy ground, and is most abundant over the middle and northern sections of Central British Columbia. It is gaining a foothold in many places where it is not desirable, through its strong seeding qualities, especially upon burnt over ground.

In the open, it will bear fertile seed cones, when only five to six years of age.

Black pine is a useful tree in the barren sections of the country, as it will thrive where hardly anything else will grow. In contrast with Red cedar, it has an aversion to limestone. Its age limit is about 200 years—a tree one foot in diameter is about 80 years of age.

WESTERN LARCH OR TAMARACK (*Larix occidentalis*)

This tree does not occur on the coast. It is fairly abundant at a moderate elevation over the interior of British Columbia.

It is a slim tall tree with small branches, and rarely grows any larger than two feet in diameter. It is an ideal tree for poles and railway ties, for which it is principally used—also for mine timbering.

It is to be found in the far north, being not averse to a cold climate. It requires a fair amount of moisture and favors damp, cool, northern slopes. It thrives on almost any soil