

# AgBark



A series of tree insights

Did you know?

The Eastern White Pine is able to grow for 200 years or more.

## Overview

- They are the largest pine in the U.S. and are native to North America.
- White pines are monoecious so they can produce male and female cones.

## Tree Details

Clusters of 5 evergreen needles that are blue green in color, soft and flexible.

Given the right conditions they can grow to be well over 100 feet tall.

# Eastern White Pine

**Kingdom:** *Plantae*

**Class:** *Pinopsida*

**Order:** *Pinales*

**Family:** *Pinaceae*

**Genus:** *Pinus*



The bark on younger trees is gray-green, thin and smooth, later becoming thick gray-brown as the tree ages.

## White Pine in Agriculture

- Due to their size and straight trunks they are an important source of lumber for building. It is the most commonly used timber for construction lumber.
- White pine is often used in the Christmas tree and ornamental landscaping industries.
- The bark is used in landscaping for mulch, slabs can be used in paper production and even as biofuel.
- Its sawdust and shavings are used for animal bedding.

## History

- White Pine is known as the Great Tree of Peace from historical events leading to the creation of the Great Law of Peace.
- White Pine was abundant throughout the northeastern U.S. but during the 18th and 19th centuries they were over-harvested for their timber value.
- Their five cluster needles represent the five original Haudenosaunee nations.
- Early Native-Americans used White Pine's inner bark as food and colonists later used the inner bark as an ingredient for cough remedies.

Sources:

1. <https://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/syllabus/factsheet.cfm?ID=111>
2. <https://extension.umaine.edu/signs-of-the-seasons/indicator-species/pine-fact-sheet/>
3. <https://cornellbotanicgardens.org/white-pine-the-great-tree-of-peace>
4. <https://www.ustimber.com/wood-resources/details-eastern-white-pine/#:~:text=About%20one%2Dhalf%20its%20lumber,with%20diameters%20up%20to%2042%22>

Copyright© 2025 by Farm Credit of the Virginia ACA.

FARM CREDIT  
KNOWLEDGE CENTER

[www.FarmCreditofVirginias.com/Knowledge-Center](http://www.FarmCreditofVirginias.com/Knowledge-Center)