



NORWAY SPRUCE *Picea abies* (L.) Karst.

A native of Europe, Norway spruce is of great economic importance in its natural range. In Maine it is commonly planted both in forest plantations and as an ornamental tree. It rarely reproduces in the wild.

It is very symmetrical and graceful in its growth habit; open-grown trees often carry branches clear to the ground. The tips of branches on larger trees have an upward sweep; and lateral branchlets are long and pendent. Norway spruce grows more rapidly than any of our native species of spruce, and has been frequently planted for pulpwood, particularly in old fields in Aroostook County. It is very susceptible to attack by the white pine weevil.

The **bark** of younger trees is reddish-brown; older trees have grayish bark with flaking scales. The **cones** are large, 4–7 inches long, and cylindrical with stiff, notched scales. The **leaves**

are ½–1 inch long, deep shiny green, four-sided in cross section and slightly flattened. The needles lack the tendency to bend upward on the twigs as in white spruce. **Twigs** are orangish-brown and without hairs.

In its native Europe, Norway spruce is a very important lumber and pulpwood species. In Maine, the **wood** is primarily used for pulp and occasionally for lumber.



As its name implies, Norway spruce is not native to Maine.

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Norway Spruce Circumference: 143" Height: 116' Crown Spread: 68' Location: Freeport

