PLANT FACT SHEET

Larix lyallii Parl.

GENUS *Larix* **FAMILY** Pinaceae

COMMON NAMES Sub-alpine larch, Alpine larch, Timberline larch

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves

DESCRIPTION

A small tree. It grows to 12 m high and is 50 cm across the trunk. The bark is thin, smooth and yellowish-grey when young. It is thicker and in irregular reddish scaly plates when old. The branches are irregularly spaced and thick near the trunk. The leaves are stiff and 4 sided in cross section. They are 4-5 cm long and pale bluish-green. There are 30-40 leaves per tuft. The mature cones are oval and 4-5 cm long. They are purplish-brown. They stand out from the twigs in all directions. The scales are hairy and curve toward the base of the cone. The seeds are 3 mm long.

HABITAT

In Canada it grows between 1200 and 2200 m altitude. It grows up to the tree line. It grows on acidic gravely soils. It suits hardiness zones 2-8.

PRODUCTION

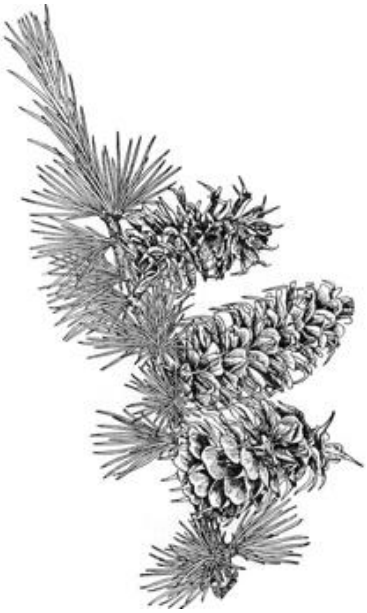
Harvesting and Seed Production

Seed crops are infrequent. Trees live for several hundred years.

NOTES

There are 10 to 14 Larix species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

Conif. nov. 3. 1863

Cundall, P., (ed.), 2004, Gardening Australia: flora: the gardener's bible. ABC Books. p 797

Etherington, K., & Imwold, D., (Eds), 2001, Botanica's Trees & Shrubs. The illustrated A-Z of over 8500 trees and shrubs. Random House, Australia. p 423

Farrar, J.L., 1995, Trees of the Northern United States and Canada. Iowa State University press/Ames p 72

MacKinnon, A., et al, 2009, Edible & Medicinal Plants of Canada. Lone Pine. p 38

Plants for a Future database, The Field, Penpol, Lostwithiel, Cornwall, PL22 0NG, UK. http://www.scs.leeds.ac.uk/pfaf/

Porsild, A.E., 1974, Rocky Mountain Wild Flowers. Natural History Series No. 2 National Museums of Canada. p 34

PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

LICENCE CC BY-NC-SA 3.0

ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/b3a8bc78-1aa0-4119-82b8-ccf0c0801f0d