



white pine

Pinus strobus

Kingdom: Plantae
Division/Phylum: Coniferophyta
Class:
Order:
Family:

FEATURES

The white pine tree may grow to 110 feet tall with a trunk diameter of two to three feet. The blue-green needles are two to five inches long and found in bundles of five. Its dark brown bark has deep ridges but is not scaly. Male and female flowers are separate but located on the same tree. Male flowers are arranged in yellow spikes up to one-third inch long. Female flowers are in smaller pink to purple clusters. The slender cones are three to eight inches long. The cone scales do not have prickles. The oblong seed is about one-fourth inch long, while the wing attached to it is about three-fourths inch long.

BEHAVIORS

The white pine may be found growing naturally in the northern one-third of Illinois. This tree grows in moist woods and on wooded slopes. It flowers in the spring. The light, soft wood of the white pine is used in interior finishing and for construction. The tree is extensively planted throughout Illinois.

HABITATS

- bottomland forests
- coniferous forest
- southern Illinois lowlands
- upland deciduous forest

ILLINOIS STATUS

- common
- endangered
- threatened
- native
- exotic

ILLINOIS RANGE

Permanent resident: northern 1/3

Summer resident:

Migrant:

Winter resident:

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.
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