



LACEBARK PINE

Pinus Bungeana

Pine Family (Pinaceae Family)

Zones: 4-8

Full Sun

Low Water

Location: Four Seasons Garden

The name of this evergreen comes from the appearance of its attractive exfoliating bark, which looks somewhat lace-like, with colors of grey to brown to greenish chalky white. Its unique bark pattern is one of its most desirable characteristics. This beautiful pine was introduced to the United States in 1846 and has been a favorite among conifer connoisseurs ever since. The seeds were collected and brought back by Robert Fortune, after the Russian botanist, Alexander von Bunge, discovered the species near Beijing in 1831.

This pine can reach up to 100 feet in the wild but less in cultivation. Due to its very slow rate of growth, not many reach maturity in our landscapes. The specimens we have in the Garden will eventually reach 30-40 feet. Ours are also multi-branched shrubs, when often it can grow with a single trunk. The single trunk actually helps prevent break-up due to the heavy weight of snow and ice. When it begins growing, it takes on a more pyramidal shape, but as it ages, the form changes to rounded.

The needles of this pine grow in fascicles of 3 and are 2-4 inches in length and sharp to the touch. They have a soft texture to them and are stiff, dark green. The cones are oval and yellow-brown, with no spines.

The Lacebark Pine prefers moderately moist well-drained soil, and should not be planted in soils that are too dry or wet. Early pruning will promote strength.