

Pinus - Growing Guide

Growing Pinus

Pine

There are over 120 species of pines but Burncoose grows only a few. Most species we offer are excellent windbreaks especially in maritime conditions in coastal areas. Others are perhaps grown more for their architectural or ornamental merits in the overall landscape.

Although it grows in the wild in only one coastal area of California where it is endangered, mention must first be made of the greatest founding asset of all Cornish woodland gardens created (mainly) in the last 120 years. None of these gardens would have been able to grow such a huge range of new Asiatic species from China without an outer windbreak to break up and dissipate strong westerly gales. This is, of course, *Pinus radiata*, known locally as Insignis pine, which readily grows to 100ft in the teeth of the wind without bending, breaking or any scorching that it cannot grow through in a season. These pines seem to live here for only 100 to 120 years before they overproduce so many huge fir cones that the branches split and the trees gradually disintegrate. Replacements were planted at Caerhays and Burncoose over 20 years ago to start new lines of protection. The problem with young *Pinus insignis* is keeping them upright in the early years. They are so top heavy that they readily fall over despite huge stakes. On Tresco they let them lie and grow up into trees from a reclining position as the wind speeds on the Isles of Scilly make staking a waste of time.

Turning now to the other species of pine which we offer:

P. contorta, the Beach pine from N. America, is nowhere near as vigorous as *P. radiata* but it eventually grows up to 60-80ft and is also a good windbreak. It needs to be planted as a belt rather than a row to do the job properly.



Pinus contorta



Pinus contorta



Pinus radiata



Pinus radiata



Pinus radiata



Young Pinus radiata



Young Pinus radiata



P. radiata young & floppy



Pinus mugo



Pinus mugo



Pinus mugo 'Ophir'



Pinus mugo 'Ophir'



Pinus mugo 'Ophir'



Pinus mugo 'Ophir'



Pinus mugo 'Ophir'



Pinus nigra



Pinus nigra



Pinus nigra



Pinus patula



Pinus patula



Pinus patula



Pinus patula



Pinus patula



Pinus pinaster



Pinus strobus



Pinus sylvestris



Pinus sylvestris



Pinus sylvestris



Pinus wallichiana



Pinus wallichiana



Pinus wallichiana



Pinus wallichiana



Pinus wallichiana



Pinus wallichiana



Pinus mugo 'Zundert'



Pinus mugo 'Zundert'

Burncoose Nurseries: Gwennap, Redruth, Cornwall TR16 6BJ

Telephone: +44 (0) 1209 860316 Fax: +44 (0) 1209 860011 Email: info@burncoose.co.uk

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