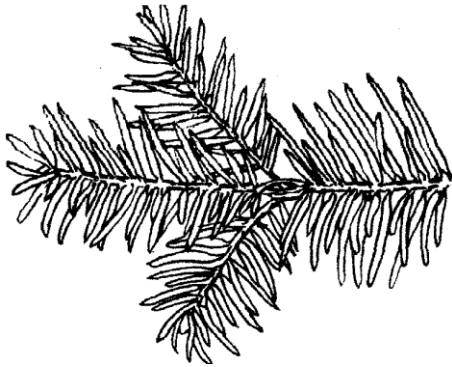


Nordmann Fir

Abies nordmanniana



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This may be the most handsome of the firs because of its dense, uniform pyramidal form, layer look and black-green needles. It is native to Caucasus and Asia Minor but is very adaptable to many landscape conditions. Best used as a specimen tree or in a grouping. Not for the small landscape.

HABIT AND SIZE: 40-60' in cultivation and up to zoo' in nature. Linearly pyramidal with a strong, single, tapering central stem. The branches bend down and up and end in a fan of smaller branches.

LANDSCAPE VALUE: Excellent in the larger landscape or as a border plant for the medium sized landscape.

LEAVES: 0.75-1.5" long, rounded and notched at apex, directed forward and densely covering the branchlets, shining dark green on top with 2 white bands underneath. Marginal resin ducts are present and the midrib is sunken.

FLOWERS: Emerging in an axillary position in early spring from buds formed the previous season on branchlet of the year, surrounded at the base by involucre of enlarged bud scales. The staminate flowers are pendent on branches above the middle of the tree with yellow or scarlet anthers. The pistillate flowers are erect on the topmost branches with numerous 2-ovuled overlapping scales.

FRUIT: Cylindrical cones, 5-6" long, reddish-brown with bracts that stick out and are reflexed.

BUD: Winter buds not resinous.

DISEASES AND INSECTS: Mostly disease free.

HARDINESS AND RANGE: Zones 4-6. Caucasus and Asia Minor.

CULTIVARS: Species only.