

State tree of ALABAMA, NORTH CAROLINA

This pine is a tall, stately native of the southern United States coastal plain, from southeast Texas to southern Virginia. It is one of several pines that characterize the southern pine savannahs. Like most savannah species, longleaf pine depends on fire to maintain its habitat. Its seeds germinate best on land recently burned. It is a slow-growing tree that may live 200 to 300 years. This pine produces valuable lumber and is also used to produce turpentine, rosin, and tar. Look for pine tree with very long needles up to 18 inches long, in clusters of three; dormant buds are white; large elongate pine cones are six to 10 inches long.