

**Native & Ornamental Trees for Southern Oregon Forests and Landscapes**  
**SOREC Forestry Note #1**

	Growth <sup>1</sup>	Tolerance level <sup>2</sup>				
		Shade	Browse	Wet soils	Drought	Frost
<b>CONIFERS</b>						
Douglas-fir	M-F	M	M	VL	M	M
White/grand fir	S-M	H	H	M	M	M
Ponderosa pine	S-M	L	H	H	H	H
Jeffrey pine	S-M	L	H	H	H	H
Sugar pine	S-M	M	H	L	M	M
Incense cedar	S	M	M	L	H	M
<b>HARDWOODS</b>						
Red/white alder	F	L	M	H	L	L
Bigleaf maple	M-F	H	L	L	M	M
Oregon ash	S	M	M	H	M	M
Black cottonwood	VF	L	L	H	L	M
Oregon white oak	S	L	H	H	H	M
Madrone	S	L	H	L	H	M
California black oak	S	L	H	L	H	M

<sup>1</sup> Growth S=slow (1' per year), M=medium (2' per year), F=fast (3' year), VF=very fast (>3' per year)

<sup>2</sup> Tolerance of major SW Oregon species to environmental stresses H=high, M=medium, L=low

**Other natives:**

**Port-Orford-cedar.** Western Josephine County, higher precipitation zone. Beautiful foliage, very shade tolerant. Various cultivars grown as ornamentals throughout world. Very susceptible to root disease.

**Shasta red fir.** Close cousin to white fir. Grows at high elevations. Good Christmas tree. Not drought or heat tolerant.

**Western white pine.** Another higher elevation tree. Very frost tolerant.

**Lodgepole pine.** Very tolerant of frost, swampy soils. Found mostly at higher elevations.

**Tanoak.** Grows in western Josephine County. Very shade tolerant, a prolific sprouter.

**Canyon live oak.** As the name suggests, found in the canyon country.

**Chinkapin.** Not abundant, found in upland forests. Beautiful wood.

**For reforestation:**

For droughty sites, ponderosa pine and Jeffrey pine are the best. Incense cedar is also fairly drought tolerant, though not as much as the pines. For north slopes and higher precipitation zones, Douglas-fir is a good choice. White fir is suited to higher elevation areas. For streamside areas, alder, cottonwood, ash, and maple are good choices. Maple can also be planted on upland sites in higher precipitation zones (35"+ per annum). When planted in the appropriate area, these species should not require summer watering, except perhaps during the establishment phase or during periods of exceptional drought.

**Non-native species:**

Redwood is poorly suited to the area due to our hot, dry climate, but may be successful further west in higher precipitation areas. Frost is also a concern.

Giant sequoia is worth considering for droughty sites.

KMX (knobcone – Monterrey pine cross) has excellent growth and drought resistance, but is susceptible to needle diseases and western gall rust.

Leyland cypress is frequently used for hedgerow plantings and privacy screens. It grows fast, but is susceptible to insect & disease problems and has flammable foliage.

Junipers are not recommended because of their highly flammable foliage.