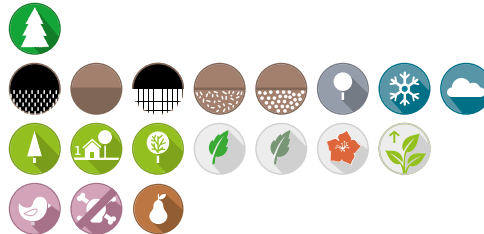




Picea omorika



Height	15 - 25 (30) m, fast growing
Width	2-4m
Crown	narrow pyramidal, half-open crown
Bark and branches	dark brown, flaking bark: brown twigs with thick hair
Leaf	needles glossy dark green, 0.5 - 2 cm, silvery grey underneath, evergreen
Flowers	upright, elongated ovoid, purplish-red, bright purplish-red, May
Fruits	hanging cones, 3 - 6 cm long and about 1 - 2 cm wide
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	all, moisture-retentive and well-permeable
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	5a (-28,8 to -26,1 °C)
Wind resistance	moderate
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
Fauna tree	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), provides food for birds
Application	industrial areas
Shape	specimen conifer
Origin	western Balkan mountains

Tree with a slender, straight trunk. The lower branches bend greatly, and the ends grow sharply upwards. This produces a decorative growth pattern. Thanks to its decorative shape and the fact that the tree only grows to be about 4 m wide, it has become one of the most popular *Picea*. The bark is thin and dark brown and flakes off in sheets: the branches are brown. The flat, stubby needles have 2 white stripes underneath which are clearly visible because of the way the branches bend. The needles on the twigs face forwards. The bright, purplish red male flowers are particularly profuse. After flowering, abundant hanging cones appear which are a violet purple colour at first but later turn a glossy brown. Owing to how close to the surface its roots grow, *Picea omorika* is sensitive to wind.