

Tree Species Comparisons - Resistance and Potential Risk

Tree species are compared based on their resistance to snow and other wind damage, and on the potential risk of damage due to fire, insect, or fungi. Other agents are included in this table but for a complete discussion of these potential damaging agents see the individual section pertaining to the particular species. The three interpretive classes used are: L – low, M – moderate, and H – high.

Source: Table 4 in Klinka, K., J. Worrall, L. Skoda, and P. Varga. 2000. *The Distribution and Synopsis of Ecological and Silvical Characteristics of Tree Species of British Columbia's Forests*. Canadian Cartographics Ltd., Coquitlam, B.C.

Conifer

Tree Species	Resistance Class		Risk Class			
	Snow	Wind	Fire	Insect	Fungi	Other
Ba - Amabilis fir	H	M	L	M	L	na
Bg - Grand fir	M	M	H	H	H	na
Bl - Subalpine fir	H	L	H	H	H	na
Fd - Douglas-fir	L-M	H	M-H	H	H	L
Lt - Tamarack	H	L-H	M	M	L	na
La - Alpine larch	H	H	L	L	L	na
Lw - Western larch	H	H	H	M	L	M
Se - Engelmann spruce	H	L	H	M	M	na
Sw - White spruce	M	L	H	M-H	M	na
Sb - Black spruce	H	L	H	M	L	na
Ss - Sitka spruce	L	L	L	H	L	na
Pa - Whitebark pine	H	H	L	H	M	L
Pj - Jack pine	L	H	H	H	M	na
Pl - Lodgepole pine	L	M	H	H	H	H
Pw - Western white pine	H	M	M-H	M	H	na
Py - Ponderosa pine	M	H	M	M	M	M
Hw - Western hemlock	L-M	L	L-H	L-H	M	H
Hm - Mountain hemlock	M	L	L	L	L	M
Yc - Yellow cedar	M	M	L	L	L	L
Jr - Rocky Mountain juniper	L	H	H	L	M	na
Cw - Western redcedar	L-M	M	L-H	L	H	H
Tw - Western yew	na	na	L	L	L	na

Broadleaf

Tree Species	Resistance Class		Risk Class			
	Snow	Wind	Fire	Insect	Fungi	Other
Acb - Balsam poplar	M	H	L	L	L	L
At - Trembling aspen	M	M	M	L	M-H	L
Act - Black cottonwood	M	H	L	L	L	L
Dr - Red alder	L	M	L	L	L	na

Ep - Paper birch	L	M	M	L	L	na
Qg - Garry oak	L	M	L	L	L	na
Mb - Bigleaf maple	L	M	L	L	L	L
Ra - Arbutus	M	M	H	L	M	na