

# *Pinus parviflora* 'Glauca' 'Glauca' Japanese White Pine<sup>1</sup>

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## INTRODUCTION

This cultivar of Japanese White Pine creates a striking landscape element wherever it is used (Fig. 1). Often seen as a dense, conical form when young, 'Glauca' Japanese White Pine develops into a 35 to 50-foot-tall, wide-spreading graceful, irregularly-shaped tree, with an equal or greater spread, and a broad, flattened canopy. The 1 to 2.5-inch-long needles are stiff and twisted, forming glaucous blue/green tufts of foliage at branch tips, and creating an overall fine texture to the tree's silhouette. The brownish-red cones are one to four inches long and persist on the tree for six to seven years.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Scientific name:** *Pinus parviflora* 'Glauca'

**Pronunciation:** PIE-nus par-vih-FLOR-uh

**Common name(s):** 'Glauca' Japanese White Pine

**Family:** *Pinaceae*

**USDA hardiness zones:** 4B through 7A (Fig. 2)

**Origin:** not native to North America

**Uses:** Bonsai; screen; specimen; no proven urban tolerance

**Availability:** somewhat available, may have to go out of the region to find the tree

## DESCRIPTION

**Height:** 35 to 50 feet

**Spread:** 35 to 50 feet

**Crown uniformity:** irregular outline or silhouette

**Crown shape:** spreading; pyramidal

**Crown density:** dense

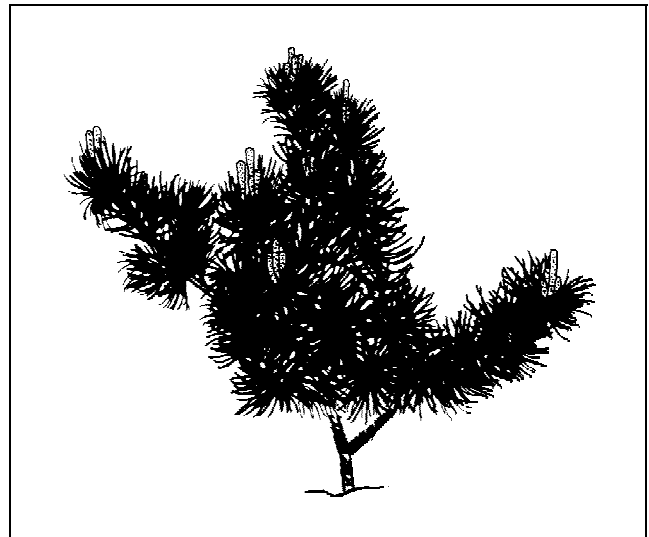


Figure 1. Young 'Glauca' Japanese White Pine.

**Growth rate:** slow

**Texture:** fine

## Foliage

**Leaf arrangement:** alternate; spiral (Fig. 3)

**Leaf type:** simple

**Leaf margin:** entire

**Leaf shape:** needle-like (filiform)

**Leaf venation:** parallel

**Leaf type and persistence:** evergreen; fragrant; needle leaf evergreen

**Leaf blade length:** 2 to 4 inches; less than 2 inches

**Leaf color:** green; silver

**Fall color:** no fall color change

**Fall characteristic:** not showy

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Figure 2. Shaded area represents potential planting range.

### Flower

**Flower color:** yellow

**Flower characteristics:** inconspicuous and not showy; spring flowering

### Fruit

**Fruit shape:** oval

**Fruit length:** 3 to 6 inches; 1 to 3 inches

**Fruit covering:** dry or hard

**Fruit color:** brown; red

**Fruit characteristics:** does not attract wildlife; fruit, twigs, or foliage cause significant litter; persistent on the tree; showy

### Trunk and Branches

**Trunk/bark/branches:** bark is thin and easily damaged from mechanical impact; droop as the tree grows, and will require pruning for vehicular or pedestrian clearance beneath the canopy; not particularly showy; should be grown with a single leader; no thorns

**Pruning requirement:** needs little pruning to develop a strong structure

**Breakage:** susceptible to breakage either at the crotch due to poor collar formation, or the wood itself is weak and tends to break

**Current year twig color:** brown; green

**Current year twig thickness:** medium

### Culture

**Light requirement:** tree grows in full sun

**Soil tolerances:** clay; loam; sand; acidic; well-drained

**Drought tolerance:** moderate

**Aerosol salt tolerance:** high

### Other

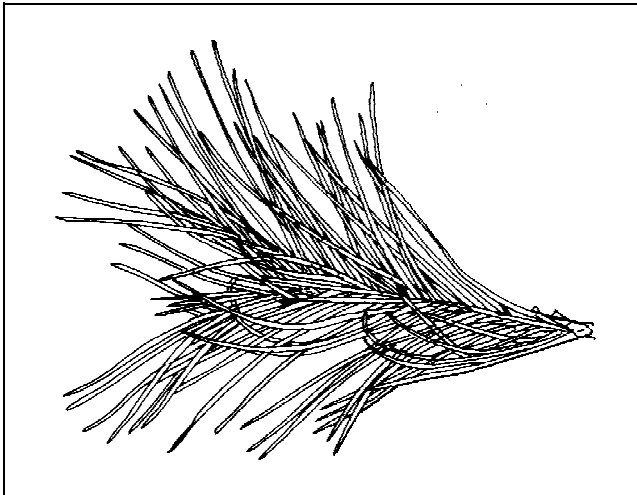
**Roots:** surface roots are usually not a problem

**Winter interest:** tree has winter interest due to unusual form, nice persistent fruits, showy winter trunk, or winter flowers

**Outstanding tree:** tree has outstanding ornamental features and could be planted more

**Invasive potential:** little, if any, potential at this time

**Verticillium wilt susceptibility:** not known to be susceptible



**Figure 3.** Foliage of 'Glauca' Japanese White Pine.

**Pest resistance:** very sensitive to one or more pests or diseases which can affect tree health or aesthetics

### **USE AND MANAGEMENT**

When looking for a small, picturesque specimen Pine for a coastal landscape, search no more. One of the best specimens in any landscape, Japanese White Pine is a pleasure to behold with attractive foliage in all seasons. Set it off in the landscape with a low ground cover beneath or locate it in the lawn, but keep the grass cleared away from the thin-barked trunk.

Japanese White Pine should be grown in full sun on well-drained soil with adequate moisture. The trees are salt-tolerant, and tolerate moderate drought and moist, clay soil.

Other cultivars include: 'Brevifolia', upright, narrow tree, sparsely branched, blue/green foliage in tight bundles.

Propagation is by seed.

### **Pests and Diseases**

There are a large number of pests and diseases on Pine.