

Douglas Firs Easily Recognized



Needles Tell



The cone of the Douglas fir and the single-needles on flattened branches are easy giveaways for the tree. Its color is usually dark green and the trunks are spotted with resin blisters.

These are young Douglas firs, recognized by most people as a Christmas tree. Identifying factors are the small cone, and single needle leaf and the broad flat branches. These trees are three years old and are on the driveway of Marvin Dargatz.

TAX IS FIXED

A total tax of \$2279.84 has been fixed in the \$204,255 estate of Manuel A. Travers. A tax of \$808.08 is fixed on the widow Florence M. Travers, who receives \$163,167, and a tax of \$1471.76 is fixed on the son, Raymond L. Travers, who receives \$58,043.

NOTICE

Our Annual Vacation will soon be over. Re-open for business November 15

Codiga Glass Co.

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Lumbermen Call It Douglas Fir, But We Say 'Christmas Tree'

(Editor's note—This is the second in a series of tree identification articles which will feature the types, both native and introduced, found in the forests of Santa Cruz county.)

The common Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga taxifolia*) is one of the most useful lumber trees in existence. The Pacific northwest is its most prolific home ground.

In this county it is sporadically distributed over a total of about 15,250 acres. About 12 percent of the present stands are virgin.

Most of the remaining areas hold young growth about 40 to 60 years old and ranging from 60 to 130 feet high, according to a survey by Herbert Jensen, California forest and range experiment station. It is a native here.

Douglas fir grows from British Columbia to the Santa Lucia mountains in Monterey county and in the Sierra Nevadas.

For most of us, it will be identified as the traditional Christmas tree.

Besides looking like a Christmas tree, the most obvious identifiable feature of the Douglas fir is its cones. They are small and between the scales are three-pronged ribbon-like extensions.

The large tree (beyond the Christmas tree stage) maintains a thick compact crown, the dark blue-green foliage and the mast-like stem.

The name Douglas was adopted from the famed explorer—botanist, David Douglas. This tree replaced the white fir in the early logging days. Douglas fir was selected for the masts of "Old Ironsides" in 1925. One fourth of all the standing saw timber in the US is Douglas fir. It is used for railroad ties, telephone poles and in plywood. During the war the army's foot lockers were made of Douglas fir.

This tree is most predominant between Pescadero creek and Santa Cruz and from La Honda creek in San Mateo county to the head of Los Gatos creek in Santa Clara county. Elsewhere it is mingled among the redwoods.

There is a project afoot within the county, however, which may

eventually put the Douglas fir among the leaders in the Santa Cruz mountains.

The California Christmas Tree Growers association is launching a cooperative venture to grow the fir commercially especially for the Christmas tree market. Some 75,000 are being put in, according to Farm Advisor Henry Washburn, and about 2000 will be ready for the market this year.

ORDERS ARE GRANTED

Orders have been granted by Superior Judge James L. Atteridge fixing inheritance taxes in three estates: Estate of Lillie D. Wilbur, taxes of \$57.65 each on Harold L. Eggers, Mary C. McCard, Alberta L. Wilson and Edith M. Knowles, nieces and nephews, tax of \$105.65 on Hattie S. Cook, a sister, tax of \$22.65 on Kenneth Crow, a nephew, tax of \$31.50 each on Zoe B. Harris and Ella Grow, tax \$17.50 on Louise Sund and tax of \$14 on Violet Lamond; estate of Rosa Culbertson, tax of \$62.03 on Lee W. Culbertson, widower, and estate of Rudolph Tauscher, tax of \$143.20 on Vincent Tauscher, brother.

Scientists say a good diet includes 11 parts carbohydrates, 2 parts protein and 3 parts fat.



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