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Ornamental Evergreens

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Evergreen plants have long been cherished as ornamentals. Their aliveness even during the coldest weather lends a continuity to the seasons. Thus, greenness through the snow gives the promise of spring.

Evergreens have many merits. First, they have an almost infinite variety of forms, shapes, colors and textures to add interest and beauty to the home environment. They are adapted to a wide range of environmental conditions. They are hardy and thrive at nearly all elevations and in most soils. As a group they are relatively pest- and disease-free.

Evergreens can be classified into two broad types: the conifers or narrowleafed evergreens and the broadleafed evergreens. The majority of evergreens in the cooler regions of the northern hemisphere are conifers. The variety of sizes and forms found in the conifers makes them useful in landscape design.

The broadleafed evergreens come from several genera. Only a few are hardy in the coldest regions of the Northwest, and because of their rarity in the colder temperate regions, the broadleafed evergreens have long been prized. Some of these are native to the area and are well-adapted to local conditions. In warmer regions the variety of usable broadleafed evergreens becomes larger.

Generalizations on broadleaf evergreens culture and maintenance are difficult to make because of their diversity. Each variety must be treated to its own conditions if it is to survive and flourish. Generally, broadleaf evergreens should be used in protected areas and should be planted where they are not subject to drying winds. They need irrigation where rainfall is inadequate. The enclosed plant list does not include all of the broadleaf ornamentals that are used in Idaho but does include the most reliable ones.



Compact pyramidal arborvitae

ARBORVITAE (*Thuja species*)

The arborvitae are evergreen trees and shrubs with scale-like leaves. Three species — two native to North America and one from the Orient — are commonly used as ornamentals. The arborvitae are sometimes called "white cedar." The most commonly used ornamentals are cultivars of *Thuja occidentalis* or American Arborvitae. These hardy trees and shrubs are available in a large variety of shapes and sizes. The American Arborvitae are adaptable to a wide range of soils and climates. They need water in dry areas, are generally rapid growers and are reasonably trouble-free. They can be sheared to maintain size and shape. Early pruning and shearing will help in developing a good plant and aid in size control.

The Western Arborvitae (*Thuja plicata*) are not used as widely as the American Arborvitae in landscape plantings. The native trees are very large and should be used only where adequate room is available for full development. A few dwarf cultivars have been found but are not generally available at nurseries. The Western Arborvitae are not as hardy as the American Arborvitae and the ornamental cultivars should be used in protected areas where adequate water can be given them.

Very popular shrubs, Berckmann's Arborvitae, are cultivars of the Oriental Arborvitae (*Thuja orientalis* or *Platycladus orientalis*). The Oriental Arborvitae are not as hardy as the American Arborvitae and will winter-burn during colder winters. They will do best in protected areas. Shearing is necessary to maintain size and shape.

All arborvitae may become infested with spider mites. If dead leaves and branches occur during the summer, they should be checked for this pest and control measures should be used. Another problem with arborvitae is dog damage. Where dogs are a problem, a protective fence should be used to keep them away.

FALSE CYPRESS (*Chamaecyparis species*)

This group of plants contains many very desirable landscape subjects. They are of only marginal hardiness in most of Idaho and should be used in protected areas where plenty of water can be given them. Care should be taken to use only the dwarfs in foundation plantings, since the trees are very rapid growing and soon crowd both the buildings and other plants.



Lawson cypress

FIRS (*Abies species*)

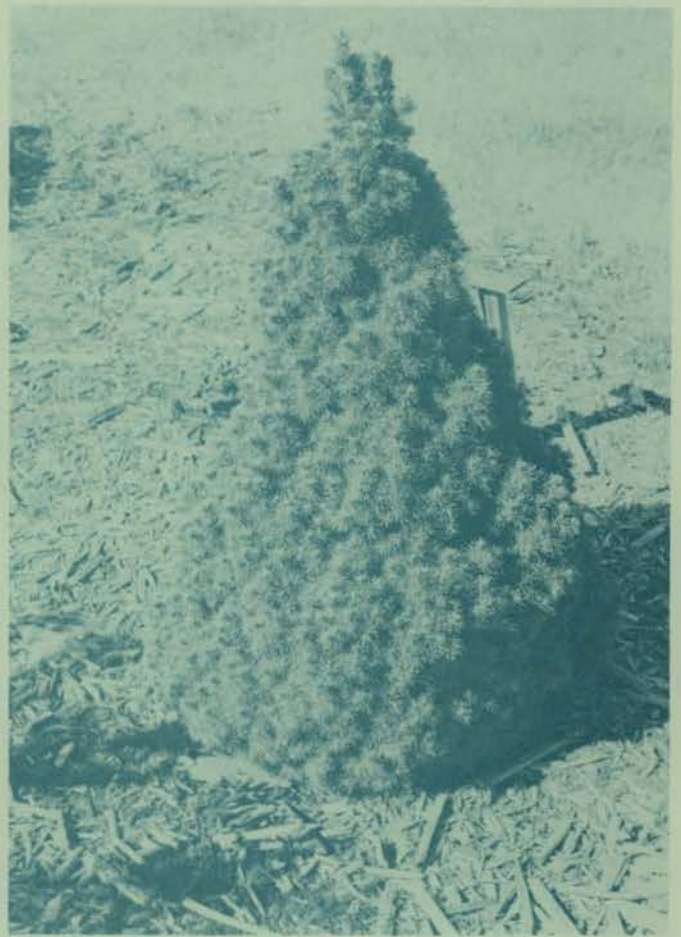
Firs are generally large trees. They have very soft, needle-like foliage and are very tempting as landscape subjects. They are, however, fast growing, large trees that soon require more space than is usually available. Dwarf types which have been found are usually not available at nurseries.

SPRUCES (*Picea species*)

Like the pines, most spruces are too large for home plantings. Several dwarf cultivars, however, are very useful. They are generally of value as accent plants. The most common, Dwarf Alberta Spruce and Nest Spruce, are very slow growers and do not cover areas fast enough to be useful in foundation plantings. The spruces can be pruned during their growth period to maintain size and shape.



Nest spruce



Dwarf Alberta spruce

JUNIPERS (*Juniperus species*)

Of all the ornamental conifers, the junipers are the most important. A half dozen species and several hundred cultivars are involved. They range from large trees to dwarf creeping plants only a few inches tall. Foliage color may be a deep green, blue or silver. The junipers are adapted to a wide range of soils and climates and are grown everywhere in the northern temperate areas. Most of them are hardy to cold and drought.

The major problems related to the use of junipers in landscaping are errors in judgment on the part of people using them. Homeowners are prone to plant shrubs and trees too near their homes. This results in overgrowth and crowding; eventually, these shrubs must be removed. In the accompanying tables the sizes listed are for mature plants and by persistent pruning and training they can be kept attractive and controlled for many years. No plant should be placed closer than 3 feet from the foundation of the house and 4 to 6 feet should be allowed for more spreading or broader growing plants.

The most common pest of junipers is spider mites. Symptoms of spider mite infestation are dead leaves and branches. A commercial applicator or your County Extension Agent should be consulted for proper control measures. Juniper blight is a disease problem in some areas. This can be controlled by proper application of fungicides.



Welch juniper

PINES (*Pinus species*)

Pines are valued in the landscape planting for their long bright green needles and open form. Unfortunately, all of the native species are much too large for use in home planting. They are very beautiful when young but often must be destroyed because of crowding. None of the native pines should be planted closer than 30 feet from a structure.

One species of pine — Mugo Pine (*Pinus mugo* "Mughus") — is dwarf enough to use in foundation plantings. It is a very desirable plant that adds another texture and form to a planting. It can be pruned during its growth period to maintain a desired height. Mugo pine is usually propagated from seed; therefore, the plants do not all grow to the same size or shape.

YEWS (*Taxus species*)

The yews are some of the most desirable landscape plants. They have dark green needles and bear bright orange to red fruits. They range in size from spreaders, a few inches tall, to massive spreading trees 60 feet tall. All too often yews are a disappointment to the homeowner since the yews have a tendency to overgrow and crowd the house and other shrubs. Yews are not good city dwellers because they are susceptible to air pollution and reflected heat. If they are used in urban plantings they should be placed away from streets and driveways.

Yews will tolerate considerable shade and can be used



Mugo pine

on the north side of buildings. In humid regions they tolerate open sun and are at their best. They are rapid growers and lend themselves to a variety of uses. They are not hardy to the colder area and are subject to winter burn when temperatures drop below -10°F. The Japanese yews are somewhat more cold hardy than the English yews.

Pruning Ornamental Evergreens

Pruning is the most important factor for the successful management of ornamental evergreens. Specimen plantings of the large pines, spruces and firs may require little or no pruning. Other evergreens, particularly those used in foundation plantings, require frequent pruning and shearing to keep them trained at a size that fits their location.

An important fact to remember is that the conifers do not have buds capable of regenerating new branches from the trunk or branches. If the buds are removed by pruning, the area will remain bare of foliage and the appearance of the plant will be damaged.

Dos and Don'ts of Conifer Pruning Are:

- Do prune out double or multiple leaders on pines, spruces, firs or any tree that is to be grown in a pyramidal form. These trees should have one trunk. If two or more are allowed to develop, the plant form will be destroyed and will be subject to damage by wind and snow.
- Do prune out dead and diseased branches. This will

allow the area to become filled with branches sooner than if the dead wood is left in place.

- Do prune back tips on juniper branches to make them grow more compact and to keep them small enough to fit the area assigned to them. This process should be started the first year after planting and continued each year. If pruning is neglected until the plant is too large, little can be done to preserve the form and value of the plant.
- Do prune evergreen hedges at a size considerably smaller than the eventually desired size. This will produce a thick hedge with room for a yearly increment of growth.
- Do not remove the lower branches from evergreen trees. This practice destroys the ornamental value of the plant.
- Do not prune back to leafless wood. Remember, no new branches can arise from the branches or trunk.
- Do not forget about pruning until the trees have outgrown their area. Prune annually. Even small plants require pruning if they are to remain small.

Juniper planting at University of Idaho ornamental test site.



NEEDLELEAF EVERGREENS

Ground Covers Less than 1 Foot Tall



Common Name	Latin Name	Size	Comments
Sargent Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> "Sargentii"	1 ft. tall X 8 ft.	Low growing, dark blue green, coarse feathery foliage, dense.
Blue Communis Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i> "Saxatilis"	1 ft. tall X 6 to 8 ft.	Low growing, gray blue foliage, needle-like leaves, trailing open habit.
Shore Juniper	<i>Juniperus conferta</i>	1 ft. tall X 6 to 8 ft.	Very low growing, bright green, leaves — long needle-like relatively slow growth; needs watering in dry areas.
Bar Harbor Juniper	<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i> "Bar Harbor"	6 to 10 in. tall X 10 ft.	Very low growing, blue green foliage turns purplish in winter; fine branches form a dense mat.
Waukegan Juniper	<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i> "Douglasii"	1 ft. tall X 10 ft.	Steel blue foliage turns purple in winter trailing with upright branchlets.
Blue Rug Juniper (Wilton's Juniper)	<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i> "Wiltonii"	4 to 6 in. tall X 8 ft.	Silver blue foliage, dense, short branchlets on long trailing branches. One of the finest prostrate junipers for banks and rock gardens, fast growing.
Compact Japanese Garden Juniper	<i>Juniperus procumbens</i> "Nana"	6 to 12 in. tall X 4 ft.	Blue green, needle-like foliage, compact, slow growing but one of the finer low growing dwarf junipers for rock gardens and border plantings.
Dwarf Japanese Yew	<i>Taxus cuspidata</i> "Nana"	1 to 3 ft. tall X 6 ft.	Very slow growing yew. Should be used only by the patient gardener. Does best in partial shade and humid locations. A lovely plant.
Spreading Japanese Yew	<i>Taxus cuspidata</i> "Densiflora"	1 to 3 ft. tall X 20 ft.	Low spreading plant, dark green foliage. Plant where it can fully expand.

**Taller Shrubs Useful
as Ground Covers
and in Foundation Plantings**



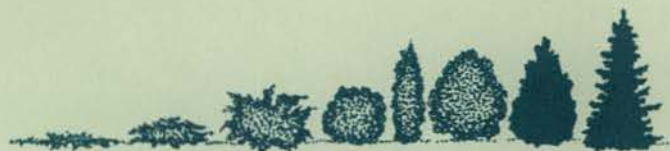
Common Name	Latin Name	Size	Comments
San Jose Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> "San Jose"	2 ft. tall X 6 to 8 ft.	Prostrate, dense. A good plant. Dark green foliage, slow growing.
Andorra Juniper	<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i> "Plumosa"	1 to 2 ft. tall X 10 ft.	Very prostrate, low growing, flat branches with upright branchlets. Gray green foliage in summer, purple in winter. Fast growing.
Japanese Garden Juniper	<i>Juniperus procumbens</i>	1½ to 3 ft. tall X 10 to 20 ft.	Green to blue green feathery foliage. Adaptable to a wide range of environmental conditions.
Savin Juniper	<i>Juniperus sabina</i>	1½ to 3 ft. tall X 10 to 15 ft.	Fine medium green foliage on arching branches. Not as good as Juniper sabina "Tamariscifolia."
Broadmoor Juniper	<i>Juniperus sabina</i> "Broadmoor"	1 to 1½ ft. tall X 8 ft.	Low growing spreader with soft bright green foliage. Should be used where Tam junipers are too large.
Tam Juniper	<i>Juniperus sabina</i> "Tamariscifolia"	1½ to 3 ft. tall X 10 to 16 ft.	Probably the most popular spreading juniper in the west. A very good plant but overused. Should be given plenty of space.
Hughes Juniper	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> "Hughes"	1½ ft. tall X 8 to 10 ft.	Loose growth, silverish blue foliage. Used to add color to a planting.
Pfitzer Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> "Pfitzeriana"	3 to 4 ft. tall X 15 to 20 ft.	A widely used shrub usually not given adequate space to develop. Blue green foliage, rapid growing. Use in open spaces.
Golden Pfitzer	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> "Pfitzeriana Aurea"	2 to 3 ft. tall X 10 ft.	Similar to Pfitzer except smaller and branch tips are golden.
Compact Pfitzer Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> "Pfitzeriana Compacta"	1 to 1½ ft. tall X 4 to 6 ft.	Compact, slow growing, foliage a light greenish blue.
Nelson's Compact Pfitzer	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> "Pfitzeriana Nelson Blue"	1 to 1½ ft. tall X 6 ft.	Blue compact Pfitzer.
Old Gold Pfitzer	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> "Pfitzeriana Old Gold"	2 to 3 ft. tall X 6 to 8 ft.	More golden than Golden Pfitzer. Foliage somewhat finer. A good shrub.
Common Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>	2 to 3 ft. tall X 10 to 15 ft.	Native to northern Idaho. Plants collected in wild will be quite variable. Nurseries may handle clonal materials.
Golden Communis Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i> "Aurea or Aureo-spica"	1 to 1½ ft. tall X 5 to 6 ft.	Foliage is golden when young, turning blue green when mature, may be brownish in winter.
Arcadia Juniper	<i>Juniperus sabina</i> "Arcadia"	1½ ft. tall X 4 to 6 ft.	Flat topped plant similar in form to a Pfitzer but much smaller, useful in foundation plantings. Foliage is ferny and a rich green.
Von Ehron's Juniper	<i>Juniperus sabina</i> "Von Ehrons"	2 to 3 ft. tall X 6 to 8 ft.	Smaller than Savin or Tam Juniper. Vigorous rich green. Branches grow upright. Resistant to juniper blight.

**Taller Evergreen Shrubs
to 8 to 10 Feet for
Foundation and Specimen Planting**



Common Name	Latin Name	Size	Comments
Pyramidal Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> "Pyramidal"	See comments	This is the popular pyramidal Arborvitae used extensively. Excellent plant for a narrow evergreen screen. In foundation plantings it must be pruned annually to keep height down. Arborvitae are very prone to dog damage and must be protected. Some more dwarf varieties are becoming available and should be used in foundation plantings.
Globe Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> "Globosa"	3½ to 4 ft. tall X 4 to 6 ft.	Glabose arborvitae of use in foundation plantings. Rapid growth. Can be pruned to maintain size.
Little Gem Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> "Pumila"	2 to 3 ft. tall X 3 to 4 ft.	Very slow growing. A very good plant for use in restricted areas. Very compact glabose.
Dwarf Globe Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> "Nana"	1½ to 2 ft. tall X 1½ to 2 ft.	Very dwarf and very slow growing.
Woodward's Globe Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> "Woodwardii"	4 ft. tall X 6 to 8 ft.	More dense than globe arborvitae. Becomes very large in old age. Can be pruned to retain small size. A good specimen shrub in large areas.
Sherwood Moss Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> "Sherwood Moss"		Fine foliage. Only small specimens are available for observation. Can be pruned to form a broad pyramid. Color and texture make this a promising shrub.
Siberian Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i> "Siberian"	6 to 8 ft. tall by 6 ft.	A broad pyramid with very dark green, coarse foliage. A very good plant for use with lower buildings.
Maltanomah Spruce	<i>Picea abies</i> maltanomah	See comments	Informally growing plant. Very prostrate when young but becoming an irregularly shaped mound. Deep green. Branches are rigid and upturning at tips.
Swiss Mountain Pine	<i>Pinus mugo</i>	Variable	A dwarf pine, slow growing, usually broader than tall, but may become too large for foundation plantings. New growth should be pruned each spring to maintain size.
Mugo Pine	<i>Pinus mugo</i> "Mughus"	4 ft. tall X 4 to 6 ft.	Very dwarf spreading pine, a very good plant for foundation and border planting. Slow growing.
Maneyi Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> "Maneyi"	Semi-erect to 10 ft.	Needle-like blue grey foliage. Slow growing.
Hetzi Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> "Pfitzeriana Hetzii"	5 to 6 ft. tall X 15 to 20 ft.	More upright when young than Pfitzer Juniper. Foliage bluish green. Rapid grower.

**Taller Pyramidal Plants
for Foundation, Screen
and Specimen Plantings**



Common Name	Latin Name	Size	Comments
Hetz's Columnar Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> "Hetz's"	10 to 14 ft. tall	Broad columnar tree, very dark green.
Mountbatten Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> "Mountbatten"	To 10 to 12 ft. tall	Narrow column. Foliage dark green, needle-like.
Iowa Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> "Iowa"	To 10 ft. tall	Small tree with bluish green foliage. Forms a broad pyramid.
Ames Juniper	<i>Juniperus chinensis</i> "Ames"	To 10 ft. tall	An excellent small pyramid with green foliage for use in home landscaping.
Irish Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i> "Stricta"	12 to 16 ft. tall	Very slender columnar tree. Dark green. A very picturesque tree. Must be pruned to keep below eaves of modern homes.
Blue Haven Juniper	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> "Blue Haven"	To 20 ft. tall	One of the better upright junipers with blue foliage. Compact fast growth.
Emerald Green Juniper	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> "Emerald Green"	To 20 ft. tall	Bright green compact tree.
Welch Juniper	<i>Juniperus scopulorum</i> "Welchii"	To 20 ft. tall	Narrow, blue green spire. Will overgrow unless sheared. A good plant.
Burk's Juniper	<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> "Burkii"	To 20 ft. tall	This plant has steel blue foliage in summer and is plum colored in winter. Forms a dense pyramid.
Berckmann's Arborvitae	<i>Thuja orientalis</i>	5 ft. tall X 3 to 4 ft.	Dwarf very compact growth. Not as hardy as other arborvitae listed. Tolerates drought and needs good drainage. Can become infested with spider mites.
False Cypress	<i>Chamaecyparis lawsoniana</i> <i>Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</i> <i>Chamaecyparis obtusa</i> <i>Chamaecyparis pisifera</i>	See comments	These are shrubs and trees of marginal hardiness in most Idaho areas. They should be used in protected areas. Some very attractive plants exist in this group but only the dwarfs should be used in foundation plantings. The false cypress are fast growing and many beautiful trees have been ruined because they were planted too close to homes. They are susceptible to red spiders and should be sprayed in the summer to control this pest.
Dwarf Balsam Fir	<i>Abies balsamea</i> "Nana"	2 to 3 ft. tall X 4 to 6 ft.	Very dwarf and slow growing. Dark green foliage. Forms a dense cushion. Interesting in rock gardens. Needs partial shade and lots of water.

Common Name	Latin Name	Size	Comments
Subalpine Fir	<i>Abies lasiocarpa</i>	See comments	Very rustic tree from high altitudes where it is very slow in growth. If, however, it is given good growing conditions, it makes a tree 50 to 60 feet tall with a 20 to 30 foot spread. Plant on dry hillsides and do not fertilize.
Spreading English Yew	<i>Taxus baccata "Adpressa"</i>	5 ft. tall X 10 to 15 ft.	Spreading yew. Long branches not dense. Should be planted as a specimen where it can fully develop. <i>Taxus baccata "Aurea"</i> is similar but denser and has yellowish new growth.
Dwarf Alberta Spruce	<i>Picea glauca "Conica"</i>	10 ft. tall X 4 to 5 ft.	Very dwarf and slow growing a uniform conical shape. Short needles, bright green. Does well in partial shade. May burn from dry winds. Should be planted with other dwarf types or as specimen to minimize competition. This is an outstanding small tree suitable for foundation, rock garden and tub plantings.
Nest Spruce	<i>Picea abies "Nidiformis"</i>	3 ft. tall X 4 to 6 ft.	A very compact almost globular shrub, very short needles, dark green. A fine plant for the foundation planting or rock garden.
Dark Green Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis "Dark Green"</i>	To 50 ft. tall	Dark green foliage, can be sheared. Makes an excellent formal evergreen hedge.
Techny Arborvitae	<i>Thuja occidentalis "Techny"</i>	20 to 30 ft. tall	Slow growing, dark green dwarf tree. Foliage is coarse. Makes a good evergreen screen. A good plant.
Irish Yew	<i>Taxus baccata "Stricta"</i>	To 20 ft. tall	Broad, dark green pyramid.
Hick's Yew	<i>Taxus media "Hicksii"</i>	To 20 ft.	Similar to Irish Yew but more hardy.

BROADLEAF EVERGREENS

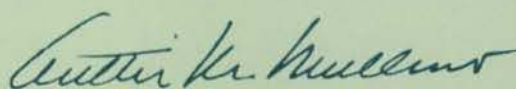
Common Name	Latin Name	Size	Comments
Kinnickinnick or Bearberry	<i>Arctostaphylos uva-ursi</i>	2 to 6 in. tall X 10 ft.	A native plant of considerable value as a ground cover on slopes or under taller shrubs. Completely hardy, this evergreen forms a mat that roots down along the branches. Two cultivars, "Point Reyes" and "Radiant" have been selected and are preferred to the species.
Silver Carpet Artemesia	<i>Artemesia caucasica</i> (P.I. 314411)	2 in. tall X 2 to 3 ft.	This is a plant introduction from the Soviet Union. It has feathery silver foliage, is very fast growing and roots down along the branches. When planted 30 inches apart this plant will cover the ground in one growing season. Flower heads on this plant become unsightly and should be removed with a high set lawn mower or by hand. Use in well drained areas.
Variegated Japanese Aucuba	<i>Aucuba japonica</i>	Variable, depending on site	This is a very attractive evergreen shrub for use in protected areas. It is only half hardy but has been observed to survive very low temperatures (-40°F) in foundation planting on the north and east sides of buildings. The leaves are 4 to 6 inches long, borne on upright stems.
Evergreen Barberry	<i>Berberis species</i>	Variable	Several evergreen barberries are hardy to -10 to -20°F. They have holly-like leaves and are quite attractive. Should be tried in protected areas. Julian and Menfor barberry are among the hardiest of the evergreen barberries.
Korean Boxwood	<i>Buxus microphylla</i> "Koreana"	3 to 4 ft. tall	The hardiest of all boxwoods. It has very small light green leaves. It is very slow growing and not very compact.
True Dwarf Boxwood	<i>Buxus sempervirens</i> "Suffruticosa"	3 to 4 ft. tall X 4 ft.	The common boxwood used as a hedge plant. Dark green foliage is borne on very compact growth. This shrub will burn during our coldest winters but recuperates rapidly. Boxwoods should be planted in protected areas in colder regions.
Snowbrush, Tobacco Brush	<i>Ceanothus velutinus</i>	Variable	A native evergreen shrub of possible merit in landscaping. Shrubs grown from seed are variable in form and size. Selections are being made for uniform compact varieties.

Common Name	Latin Name	Size	Comments
Scotch Broom	Cytisus species and Genista species	Variable	The scotch, usually leafless shrubs, vary in size from creeping ground covers to shrubs 8 to 10 ft. tall. They are only half hardy and should be used in protected areas. Many vertical branches give the broom's their name. The branchlets are evergreen and bear pea-like flowers profusely in the late spring. Flower colors are shades of yellow and pink. In warmer moist regions the brooms have been known to become weeds.
Wintercreeper	Euonymus fortunei	Variable	Evergreen vines and shrubs varying in size from the delicate Kewensis and Longwood to the Big Leaf Wintercreeper which may have branches 15 to 20 feet long. They should be used in protected areas and do well in partial shade. They require watering. The viney types may be trained onto walls.
Heather	Calluna vulgaris	Variable	A collection of 10 varieties of heather in the landscape arboretum at Moscow has survived three winters with no cold damage. The heathers are evergreen plants with fine feathery foliage. They are profuse bloomers. Flower color ranges from white to purple. Many varieties are available commercially. Needs water and a soil pH below 6.5.
Heath	Erica carnea	To 6 in. tall	A low spreading sister to the heathers but with short needle-like foliage. Flowers in early spring. Flower colors are white to pink. This is an attractive plant for rock gardens and borders. Needs water and a soil pH below 6.5.
Evergreen Candytuft	Iberis sempervirens	6 to 10 in. tall X 3 ft.	A flowering shrub of considerable merit. It forms an evergreen mound which is covered with white flowers in spring. Very hardy and a good plant for bank and rock garden plantings.
Rose Daphne	Daphne cneorum	8 to 12 in. tall X 3 ft.	A mounding evergreen shrub with leaves arranged rosette-like around the branches. Pink flowers are produced in early spring. The variety "Ruby Glow" is preferred. This is a good companion for Evergreen Candytuft in bank or rock garden plantings.
Bearberry Cotoneaster	Cotoneaster dammeri	4 to 6 in. tall X 8 ft.	This shrub provides a show for all seasons. It is evergreen, has showy white flowers in spring and bright red fruit in the fall.
Rockspray Cotoneaster	Cotoneaster microphylla	2 ft. tall X 6 ft.	A loose growing shrub with small leaves, small white flowers and red fruits. Its small leaves make it look like a pile of sticks most of the time.

Common Name	Latin Name	Size	Comments
Rock Cotoneaster	<i>Cotoneaster horizontalis</i>	2 ft. tall X 10 to 15 ft.	Not always evergreen, but a very desirable plant. It makes a very broad low mound that will creep over rocks or down walls. It is also useful on slopes. It usually is covered with bright red fruits in the fall.
English Ivy	<i>Hedera helix "Baltica"</i>	Variable	An evergreen vine that can be used as a ground cover or to climb walls. A good plant but may be difficult to confine when established.
Leucothoe	<i>Leucothoe catesbaei</i>	Weeping shrub 2 to 5 ft. tall	Not very hardy but a lovely plant in very protected areas. The variety "Rainbow" has multicolored leaves.
Twinflower	<i>Linnaea borealis</i>	Creeping vine	A delicate little plant native to the Northwest. It likes moist areas where the soil contains organic materials. Can be used in dense shade. It has flowers borne two to a 2- to 4-inch stem. A similar plant <i>Satureja Douglasii</i> grows with twin flowers. They can be differentiated by the minty smell of the leaves of <i>Satureja</i> .
Irish Moss	<i>Arenaria verna caespitosa</i>	Creeping moss-like plant	Irish moss is a deep green grass-like plant which forms a mat. Does well in partial to deep shade. Makes a nice plant for between stepping stones. A similar plant with yellow foliage is called Scotch Moss (<i>Sagina subulata</i>).
Moneywort or Creeping Jennie	<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>	Creeping vine	A creeping ground cover for moist shady areas. It has yellow flowers in summer. Should be planted where it can roam free, otherwise it becomes a pest.
Oregon Grape	<i>Mahonia aquifolium</i>	Variable	A native to Northwest and familiar to most people. It can range to 6 feet tall. Its yellow flowers of early spring are followed by blue berries which persist into winter. Its large leaves are holly-like.
Creeping Mahonia	<i>Mahonia repens</i>	6 in. to 3 ft. tall	This small evergreen creeps by underground stems. It is useful as a ground cover. Since much of the stock of this plant is gathered from the wild, it is not uniform in height or habit.
Eastern Pachistima or Ratstripper	<i>Pachistima canbyi</i>	A spreading mound, 6 to 10 in. tall	A fantastic evergreen. It has small boxwood-like leaves. Its growth is dense and creeping. Good for use as a ground cover and in the rock garden.
Western Pachistima, Mountain Lover or Oregon Boxwood	<i>Pachistima myrsinites</i>	2 ft. tall X 3 to 4 ft.	The western pachistima has larger leaves than the eastern species. It is native all through the Rocky Mountains and the Northwest. It hasn't been used in landscaping as much as it could be. It is a good substitute for boxwood in colder regions.

Common Name	Latin Name	Size	Comments
Pachysandra or Japanese Spurge	<i>Pachysandra terminalis</i>	6 in. tall	A good ground cover. Will do well in areas too shaded for grass. It has leaves 2 to 4 inches long which are deep green.
Evergreen Penstemon	<i>Penstemon pinnifolia</i>	3 to 4 in. mound	This evergreen looks like a pin cushion except in summer when it is covered with 6-inch stems bearing red flowers. It is very attractive to hummingbirds.
Creeping Phlox	<i>Phlox subulata</i>	2 to 6 in. tall X 24 in.	A flowering plant of considerable merit. It is available in a variety of colors. Its early spring flowers are a glory in the rock garden, on a slope or hanging over a wall.
Cherry Laurel	<i>Prunus laurocerasus "Zabeliana"</i>	3 to 4 ft. tall X 4 to 5 ft.	One of the most attractive broadleaf evergreen shrubs. It has large green leaves. It needs annual pruning to increase its density and prevent it from becoming straggly. Plant in locations out of the wind. Another variety "Otto Luyken" is more dwarf and compact.
Firethorn	<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i>	6 to 10 ft. tall	A hardy evergreen shrub usable in all but the coldest areas. It is very fast growing and often crowds out its neighbors and the house if planted too close. It has thorns as the name indicates. It is grown primarily for its orange to red berries which persist throughout the winter.
Yerba Buena or Tea Vine	<i>Satureja douglasii</i>	Creeping vine	Similar to twin flower and usually found in conjunction. It is more adaptable to landscape use. Yerba Buena is a member of the mint family and was used by early settlers as a substitute for tea.
Sedum	<i>Sedum species</i>	1 in. to 1 ft. tall	A very large group of plants of variable habits and uses. Among the better ones are cultivars of <i>Sedum spurium</i> .
Old Hen and Chicks or Houseleek	<i>Sempervivum tectorum</i>	1 to 6 in. tall	Over 60 varieties are on trial at the landscape arboretum in Moscow. They are all hardy. Many sizes and colors are available. A good group of plants for the hobbyist. Their flowers are very unusual and the bees love them.
Dwarf Periwinkle or Myrtle	<i>Vinca minor</i>	4 to 6 in. mounding vine	One of the better evergreen ground covers for our region. A fast growing plant that spreads and roots down. It has bright blue flowers. Will grow in shade. Vinca needs frequent deep watering.
Adam's Needle	<i>Yucca filamentosa</i>	2 ft. tall. Flower stalks to 4 ft.	The Yucca with large white flowers. A good accent plant.

The State is truly our campus. We desire to work for all citizens of the State striving to provide the best possible educational and research information and its application through Cooperative Extension in order to provide a high quality food supply, a strong economy for the State and a quality of life desired by all.



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SERVING THE STATE

This is the three-fold charge of the College of Agriculture at your state Land-Grant institution, the University of Idaho. To fulfill this charge, the College extends its faculty and resources to all parts of the state.

Service ... The Cooperative Extension Service has active programs in 42 of Idaho's 44 counties. Current organization places major emphasis on county office contact and multi-county specialists to better serve all the people. These College of Agriculture faculty members are supported cooperatively by federal, state and county funding to work with agriculture, home economics, youth and community development.

Research ... Agricultural Research scientists are located at the campus in Moscow, at Research and Extension Centers near Aberdeen, Caldwell, Parma, Sandpoint, Teton, Twin Falls and at the U.S. Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois and the USDA/ARS Soil and Water Laboratory at Kimberly. Their work includes research on every major agricultural program in Idaho and on economic and community development activities that apply to the state as a whole.

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