

Pinus mugo subsp. *mugo*

Mugo pine



Pinus mugo subsp. *mugo* is the typical low, broad and compact form of *Pinus mugo* and is native to the mountains of central and eastern Europe. This evergreen conifer forms a large shrub-like to low multi stemmed tree between two and four meters tall and just as wide, although very old specimens can reach up to ten meters in width despite the species' slow growth. Most cultivars of *Pinus mugo* originate from this subspecies.

This plant has characteristic slightly curved needles that are three to five centimeters long, stiff in texture and borne in pairs. They remain on the plant for three to five years. The flowers appear in May in clusters at the tips of the twigs. The male flowers are yellow and the female flowers are red. The many prostrate and twisted stems are gray brown and scaly, while the twigs are smooth and olive green to brown.

Pinus mugo subsp. *mugo* can grow on virtually any soil type and has no strict requirements regarding pH. Dry and wet conditions are also tolerated as long as the site is sunny and low in nitrogen. Soil compaction is not tolerated. The extensive root system can stabilize soil, which is why this plant is used in Denmark and northern Germany to prevent sand drift in dune landscapes. In cultivation, this subspecies is also used as a groundcover, cloud hedge or slope stabilizer in both public and private settings. It requires little maintenance, since its dense growth suppresses weeds and its development is slow. *Pinus mugo* subsp. *mugo* is also a strong and characterful addition to rooftops and balconies.

TYPES OF PLANTING

Tree types: conifers, solitary shrubs | **Other types of planting:** undergrowth | **Topiary:** bowl, bonsai

USE

Location: park, central reservation, in containers, roof garden, large garden, small garden, patio, cemetery, traffic areas, industrial zones, coastal area | **Pavement:** none

CHARACTERISTICS

Crown shape: flattened spherical | **Crown structure:** dense | **Height:** 2 - 4 m | **Width:** 2 - 4 m | **Winter hardiness zone:** 3A - 10B

ASPECTS

Wind: tolerant to wind, tolerant to coastal wind | **Soil:** loess, sabulous clay, light clay, sand, loamy soil | **Nutrient level:** moderately rich in nutrients | **Soil moisture level:** moist | **Light requirements:** sun | **pH range:** acidic, neutral, alkaline | **Extreme environments:** tolerates air pollution

PLANTKENMERKEN

Flowers: spikes, striking | **Flower colour:** yellow-red, red-brown | **Flowering period:** May - May | **Leaf colour:** dark green | **Leaves:** evergreen, needles or scales, short needles | **Fruits:** cones | **Fruit colour:** brown | **Bark colour:** grey-brown | **Bark:** peeling | **Twig colour:** brown | **Twigs:** bare

