

The Boreal Forest Region.—This forest region, covering the greater part of Canada, stretches unbrokenly from eastern Newfoundland westward to the boundary of Alaska. Along its southern border, it follows the limits of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Region and then skirts the grasslands of the Prairies to the foothills of the Rocky Mountains and northwestward into Yukon Territory. The northern limits of tree growth form its boundary to the north. White and black spruce, trembling aspen, balsam, poplar, tamarack, white birch and jack pine comprise the principal trees of the Region.

Within the Region are two sections which are quite distinctive: the Northern Transition and the Aspen Grove Sections. The Northern Transition Section lies between the merchantable forests on the south and the arctic tundra on the north. White and black spruce, tamarack and white birch, stunted in growth, are the characteristic trees. The Aspen Grove Section, lying as a transition zone between the true forest region to the north and the open grasslands to the south, has trembling aspen as its dominant tree species. Bur oak, white elm and green ash are found in certain localities.

The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest Region.—This Region lies south of the Boreal Forest in the eastern part of Canada. It is situated in southwestern Newfoundland and westward from the drainage basin of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River System to southeastern Manitoba. Some of the earliest centres of settlement are within the Region and in many portions the forest has been largely cleared and remains now only in woodlots and patches on poor soils. The area is characterized by the occurrence of white pine and yellow birch. A large number of species occur, including red pine, jack pine, white spruce, black spruce, balsam fir, cedar, hemlock, white birch, the maples and elms.

The Acadian Forest Region.—This Region includes Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, and all but the northwest corner of New Brunswick. Red spruce is the characteristically dominant conifer, and is usually associated with balsam fir, white and black spruce, hemlock, yellow birch and sugar-maple.

The Deciduous Forest Region.—The Deciduous Region of Canada consists of a small northerly portion of the temperate forest of the same type as in the United States. The Region occupies the Sarnia-Niagara peninsula of southern Ontario. Beech and sugar-maple, associated with basswood, red maple and several oaks are the characteristic trees. Many broad-leaved species such as hickory, black walnut, tulip-tree, cucumber-tree, mulberry, sycamore, sassafras, and a number of other species find their northern limit in this Region.

The Subalpine Forest Region.—This is essentially a coniferous forest region, occupying the upper slopes of the Cordilleran System east of the Coast ranges, and lying between the Alpine Tundra formation and the Montane Forest Region. Generally, the Region lies between altitudes of 3,000 and 6,000 feet. The dominant tree species are Englemann spruce, alpine fir, lodgepole pine and trembling aspen.

The Columbia Forest Region.—The forests of this Region, often referred to as the interior wet belt of British Columbia, comprise stands in the valleys of the Columbia and Fraser Rivers that lie between altitudes of 2,500 and 4,000 feet. These forests are somewhat similar in composition to those of the Coast Region.