

Boreal Forest Region.—This region comprises the greater part of the forested area of Canada, forming a continuous belt from the Atlantic Ocean westward to the Rocky Mountains and northwestward to Alaska. The white and black spruces are characteristic tree species; other prominent conifers are tamarack, which ranges throughout the region, balsam fir and jack pine in the eastern and central portions, and alpine fir and lodgepole pine in the western and northwestern parts. Although the region is primarily coniferous, there is a general admixture of broad-leaved trees, such as the white birches and poplars; these play an important part in the central and south-central portions, particularly as the region grades into the Grassland Formation of the prairies. In turn, the proportion of barrens (non-forested rock, muskeg and tundra) increases in the northern parts until the region finally merges into the Tundra Formation. In the southern parts of the eastern portions of the region there is considerable intrusion of species from the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest Region, such as the white and red pines, yellow birch, sugar maple, black ash and eastern white cedar.

Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest Region.—Along the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence River valley is a forest of a very mixed nature, characterized by the white and the red pines, eastern hemlock and yellow birch. With these are associated certain dominant broad-leaved species common to the Deciduous Forest Region, such as sugar maple, red maple, northern red oak, basswood and white elm. Other species with wide range are the eastern white cedar, the largetooth aspen and, to a lesser extent, beech, white oak, butternut and white ash. Boreal species, such as the white and the black spruces, balsam fir, jack pine, poplar and white birch intrude from the north, and red spruce from the Acadian Forest is abundant in certain eastern portions of the Region.

Acadian Forest Region.—The greater part of the Maritime Provinces contains a forest closely related to both the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence and the Boreal Regions. The characteristic species is red spruce, with which are associated balsam fir, yellow birch and sugar maple, with some red pine, white pine, beech and hemlock. Other species of wide distribution are the black and the white spruces, northern red oak, white elm, black ash, red maple, white birch, wire birch and the poplars. Eastern white cedar and jack pine, however, are restricted almost entirely to the western half of the Region.

Deciduous Forest Region.—A small portion of this forest, widespread in the eastern United States, is found in southwestern Ontario between Lakes Huron, Erie and Ontario. Here, with the broad-leaved trees common to the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Forest Region, such as sugar maple, beech, white elm, basswood, red ash, white oak and butternut, are scattered a number of other broad-leaved species which have their northern limits in this locality. Among these are the tulip-tree, cucumber-tree, papaw, red mulberry, Kentucky coffee-tree, redbud, black gum, blue ash, sassafras, mockernut, and pignut hickories, and scarlet, black and pin oaks. In addition there are black walnut, sycamore and swamp white oak, which are largely confined to this Region. Conifers are few, mainly scattered white pine, tamarack, red juniper and hemlock.