

## ***Pseudotsuga macrocarpa* (Vasey) Mayr**

[*Pseudotsuga macrocarpa* (Torrey) Mayr, *Abies macrocarpa* Vasey, *Pseudotsuga californica* Flous, *Pseudotsuga douglasii* (Lindley) Carrière var. *macrocarpa* (Vasey) Engelman, *Abies douglasii* Lindl. var. *macrocarpa* Torrey]

### **Bigcone Spruce, Bigcone Douglas-fir, Bigcone False-hemlock**

**Description:** Evergreen coniferous small tree <44 m high, trunk <44 m x <2.1(-2.3) m wide, strongly tapered, crown broadly conic, mature crown rounded to flat, often w/many large, lower branches. Leaves (needles) 2-4.5 cm long. Seed cones 9-20 cm, sometimes persistent several years, bracts little exerted except for central tooth or lobe. Flowers in spring, cones mature in November-December.

**Habitat:** steep rocky N-facing fire-resistant slopes; Bigcone Spruce-Canyon Live Oak Forest; 200-2,400 m.

**Distribution:** Native to southern California, in mountainous areas from Kern County to just north of the border with Mexico in San Diego County. Not in desert areas.

**Landscape Position:** Best in mesic, open, well-drained locations, all aspects of house. Give plenty of room. Hardy to USDA Zone 7-8. The largest known tree is 91 inches (231 cm) DBH, 173 feet (53 m) tall, and is estimated to be from 600 to 700 years of age.

**Landscape Attributes:** Provides dark green texture, attractive shape with drooping branch tips. Evergreen requiring NO irrigation. Tolerates shade and full sun. Single tall trunk. Good substitute for Deodar Cedar.

