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Picea breweriana

BREWER'S SPRUCE is an evergreen tree. Native to south-western North America (specifically southern Oregon and northern California), it has needle-like leaves (spines) and cylindrical pointed, reddish-brown cones.

It is also known as Brewer's weeping spruce, *Épicéa de Brewer* (French), *Hængegran* (Danish), *Mähnen-Fichte* (German), *Siskiyou-Fichte* (German), Siskiyou spruce, *Smrek* (Slovak), *Smrk brewerův* (Czech), *Sørgegran* (Danish), and Weeping spruce.

Breweriana commemorates an American botanist, William Henry Brewer (1828-1910), who was the first professor of agriculture at the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale University from 1864-1903 and a pioneer botanical explorer in California. In 1848 when studying soil analysis at Yale he became a founder member of the Berzelius Society there. From 1855 he studied for three years in Europe before returning in 1858 to the United States and a chemistry and geology professorship at the Jefferson and Washington College in Pennsylvania. From 1860-1864 he was chief botanist on the California State Geological Survey and his notes of the field parties led by him in virtually virgin territory were published (*Up and Down California in 1860-1864*) posthumously in 1930. He also took part in surveys in Greenland in 1869 and the Alaskan Expedition (the results of the latter are said to have contributed to its purchase by the United States). He took an active roll in the government of Connecticut and established there the first American agricultural experimental station. A mountain in the Sierra Nevada was named after him.