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Picea polita

[Synonyms : *Abies polita*, *Abies torano*, *Picea polita* forma *rubriflora*, *Picea thunbergii*, *Picea torano*, *Picea torano* forma *rubriflora*, *Pinus polita*, *Pinus torano*]

TIGERTAIL SPRUCE is an evergreen tree. Native to southern Japan it has needle-like, leaves and hanging, orange-brown cones.

It is also known as Japanese spruce, *Smrek* (Slovak), and *Smrk lesklý* (Czech), *Tigerhalegran* (Danish), and *Tigerschwanz-Fichte* (German).

Polita is Latin (finished, polished, smooth) meaning ‘elegant, neat, or polished’.

Some authorities note that the name Tigertail spruce refers to tail-like drooping branchlets on older trees.

This tree was yet another of the species which John Gould Veitch, the great grandson of the founder of the English nurseries Veitch and Sons, introduced to Britain from Japan, this one in 1861.