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Pinus balfouriana

[Synonyms : *Pinus balfouriana* var. *austrina*]

JACK PINE is an evergreen tree. Native to California (United States) it has needle-like leaves and hanging oblong-cylindrical, purplish- to reddish-brown cones.

It is also known as *Borovice balfourova* (Czech), Foxtail pine, *Fuchsschwanz-Kiefer* (German), and *Rævehalefyr* (Danish).

The leaves emit a sweet, resinous smell when crushed.

Balfouriana commemorates a Scottish botanist, geologist and physician, Sir Isaac Bayley Balfour, KBE (1853-1922), who was an authority on primulas and rhododendrons. In 1874 he visited Rodriguez Island and the Island of Socotra in the Indian Ocean and examined the plants and geology of both. He was Regius Professor of botany (and anatomy) at Glasgow from 1879-1884 moving to Oxford rapidly to take up a fellowship at Magdalen and accept the Sherardian chair of botany. While in Oxford during 1887 he edited the quarterly *Annals of Botany* he had persuaded the Clarendon Press to publish. Then from 1888 until 1922 he was professor of botany at Edinburgh. He was also a Director (Regius Keeper) of the Royal Botanic Garden at Edinburgh and Her Majesty's Botanist (to Victoria, 1819-1901) and His Majesty's Botanist (to Edward VII 1841-1910 and George V 1865-1936). He was a Fellow of The Royal Society and in 1919 was awarded the Linnean Medal. His published works include *Botany of Socotra*.

The small red-mottled, brown seeds are eaten by birds and small animals.

The tree has been cultivated as an ornamental.