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Pinus cembroides

[Synonyms : *Pinus albicaulis*, *Pinus cembroides* var. *bicolor*, *Pinus cembroides* var. *lagunae*, *Pinus cembroides* var. *orizabensis*, *Pinus cembroides* var. *remota*, *Pinus culminicola* var. *discolor*, *Pinus culminicola* var. *johannis*, *Pinus discolor*, *Pinus johannis*, *Pinus lagunae*, *Pinus llaveana*, *Pinus orizabensis*, *Pinus osteosperma*, *Pinus remota*]

BORDER PINE is an evergreen tree. Native to western North America and Mexico it has needle-like leaves and small shiny, brown cones.

It is also known as *Borovice limbovitá* (Czech), Mexican nut pine, Mexican pinyon, Mexican stone pine, Nut pine, Pinyon pine, Three-leaved nut pine, and White-bark pine.

Cembroides is made up of both the species name and its Italian common name *cembra* and Greek *-oides* (like) components meaning ‘like Siberian cedar (*Pinus cembra*)’.

Border pine was discovered in 1839 in New Mexico in the south-western United States.

The oily dark brown seeds in the cones have long been eaten by local North American Indian tribes, including the Okanagan-Colville and Thompson Indians for whom they formed an important part of their diet. The former stored them for Winter food and the Thompson tribe ate them raw or roasted. The Montana Indian tribe ate the inner bark and, like the Spokane, Coeur d’Alene and Thompson Indians, they also ate the nuts. Today the seeds are sold on a commercial scale as ‘pine nuts’.