



## Picea pungens 'Koster'



<b>Height</b>	10 - 15 m
<b>Crown</b>	narrow pyramidal, dark, dense crown
<b>Bark and branches</b>	bark greyish black, scaled, twigs glossy orange-brown
<b>Leaf</b>	stiff, pointy needles, silvery blue, 2 - 3 cm, evergreen
<b>Flowers</b>	unremarkable
<b>Fruits</b>	hanging, cylindrical cones, 4 - 10 cm long
<b>Spines/thorns</b>	None
<b>Toxicity</b>	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
<b>Soil type</b>	nutrient-rich, moisture-retentive, preferably not too acidic
<b>Soil moisture</b>	suitable for dry soil
<b>Paving</b>	tolerates no paving
<b>Winter hardiness zone</b>	4 (-34,4 to -28,9 °C)
<b>Wind resistance</b>	moderate
<b>Other resistances</b>	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6)
<b>Fauna tree</b>	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), provides food for birds
<b>Application</b>	parks, tree containers, cemeteries, roof gardens, industrial areas, large gardens
<b>Shape</b>	specimen conifer
<b>Origin</b>	A. Koster, Boskoop, Netherlands, 1880

Old cultivar of *Picea pungens* with needles a striking bluish grey colour. This colour is less intense than the colour of the needles of the more recent cultivar 'Hoopsii'. It becomes a broad, pyramidal tree with more or less horizontal branching arranged close together. The tree can grow to approx. 10 - 15 m in height and remains about 5 m in width. In its juvenile stage, it often doesn't have a main trunk that grows vertically, rendering support necessary. As it matures, it grows uniformly. The trunk is greyish brown and later greyish black and deeply scaled. The twigs have no hair and are orange-brown. The intensely silvery blue colour of the stiff, very pointy, closely grouped needles is striking. Its long, cylindrical cones are green at first and turn yellowish brown as they ripen. Makes little demands when it comes to soil type but does require a sunny site. Tolerates more dryness than other spruces.