The *Silver Fir* or White Fir, sometimes called Vosges Fir, is a forest tree used to the average French mountains (from 600 to 1700 metres in altitude), and are fond of cool, rainy climates. Sometimes reaching sixty-five metres high, it's the tallest tree in Europe; its branches are bent toward the sky at their extremities. The crown of young trees is closely related to light conditions; a rapid growth and arrow-shape crown is due to abundant light, while a large crown demonstrates the search for light. It can live up to 250 years, which shows a great vitality.

Its short and flat needles (from fifteen to thirty millimetres), are glossy dark green above with two greenish-white bands of stomata below. *Pectinatus* means that the leaves are arranged in a comb. The needle remains attached to the tree from seven to ten years before it withers and fall, which explains why it's always green. Every year, the birth of new young leaves will push away the old one.

Its long erect cones disintegrate on the tree at maturity. The Fir cones are erected and differ; from the hanging cones of Pine. Note that conifer means "cone bearing". Young, the bark of the tree is smooth and white, hence the name White Fir, when older, it becomes thick and crackled. Unlike the Maritime Pine, it produces little resin. A subspecies of yellow fruit Mistletoe sometimes parasites it.

Symbol of verticality, the *Silver Fir develops* the uprightness of its trunk at the expense of the branches. Its roots are deep and slightly branched. From an early age, *White Fir develops* a shallow large central root serving as a pivot to the tree.
Then, vigorous lateral roots develop, parallel to the pivot and very deep, like a heart around it. That is why the *Silver Fir* breaks during storms, unlike the Mountain Pine with spread out shallow roots, which brings up the ground when uprooted. It will make its table much later than Cedar of Lebanon, which means the last lateral branches will horizontalize toward the top.

The acid undergrowth of the *Silver Fir* protects its companions, such as Raspberries, Blueberries and the Service Tree.

Its greatest feature is the ease with which it naturally regenerates the ground. It needs lots of water, but it needs well-drained soil.

Deeply rooted, the *Silver Fir* marks its territory. It’s a fundamental remedy for children, who must also learn to verticalize and to defend their territory (the ego), as well as to regenerate their terrain and provide a climate and ground propitious to development.

The persistence of its leaves symbolizes immortality.

To the Celts, the *Silver Fir* describes a reserved subject embodying faithful friendship.

It was the habitat of the Celtic God "Vogesus", whom the children decorated during the winter solstice, so that their wishes would be granted.

Many traditions describe three cosmic trees making the link between heaven and earth, between the centre of the earth and the cosmos: Fir, Ash and Birch.

**The action of Silver Fir in phytembryotherapy**

The *macerate of young shoots of Silver Fir* accompanies the child in positive growth and shows him the way to verticality.

- Pediatric action: It’s useful in all growth disorders of the bone with demineralization pathologies or inadequate mineralization, even rickets (with Silver Birch), often associated with loss of appetite. Homeopaths sometimes refer to these subjects as tuberculinic, with the characteristic association of repetitive infections such as nasopharyngitis or tonsillitis (with Dog Rose, Silver Birch, Blackcurrant and Sea-Buckthorn) with lymphadenopathy.

- Verticality: Disorders of human stature are very common and can express a calcium-phosphorus dysfunction and calcium binding disorders such as spasmophilia. The clinic is important: again, for rickets (associated with Blackberry and Mountain Pine), strengthens bone fractures, osteomalacia, osteoporosis or scoliosis.

But we also use it against bone inflammation ranging from simple particularly growing pain, to more acute diseases such as, growth epiphysitis, and even more serious: osteochondritis and osteomyelitis.

Remember that dentition is part of the ossification process; the pathologies are the traditional tooth decay or alveolar pyorrhea.
In phytembryotherapy, the macerate of the young shoots of *Silver Fir* macerate regulates the three vibratory levels of man:

- On the mental level or low density, it directly informs the body of the verticality of man, but also the core values of loyalty and friendship. That's why the deepest and most faithful friendship in the life of a person is often one that began childhood.

- On a biological level or medium density, the *Silver Fir* stimulates the synthesis of red blood cells (erythropoiesis) and of course of the osteoblasts (bone producing cells).

- Finally on high density or physical body, it's at the origin of bone and growth.
Ledoux F./ Guéniot G.

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