

UPDATE

For immediate release
Friday, Dec. 6, 1974

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary to Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Ford will accept the White House Christmas Tree as it arrives at the South Portico Friday, Dec. 6 at 11:15 a.m.

The tree is a concolor fir, 19 1/2 feet tall and 12 feet in diameter at the base. It will be placed in the center of the Blue Room.

The tree was grown in Michigan and was selected a year ago by the National Christmas Tree Growers' Association. Making the presentation to Mrs. Ford will be Edward Cole of Mayville, Mich., who is the National Grand Champion Grower for 1974.

Accompanying Mr. Cole for the ceremony:

- Mr. Cole's wife and two daughters, Linda Cole and Mrs. Laurie Batzer
- Mrs. Ouina Gardner (The tree was cut from her front yard in Mayville and donated to Mr. Cole and the Christmas Tree Growers' Association).
- Sen. Robert Griffin (R-Michigan)
- Rep. J. Robert Traxler (D-Michigan)
- Mr. and Mrs. Donald Chard of Mayville, Mich., who furnished the vehicle for the trip.

A 14-foot blue spruce for President and Mrs. Ford is also being delivered. The tree will be placed in the West Hall of the Family Quarters of the White House.

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