

Pinus ponderosa

COMMON NAME

ponderosa pine, western yellow pine

FAMILY

Pinaceae

AUTHORITY

Pinus ponderosa Douglas ex C.Lawson

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Gymnosperms

NVS CODE

PINPON

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Medium to large tree, (exceeding 30 m in cultivation). **Needles** are 25 cm long, rigid, dull-green, in bunches of 3, projecting forward. male cones are purple coloured, up to 2 cm long and in clusters on young shoots. **Female cones** 6–14 × 5–10 cm, egg shaped and each scale has a small spiny tip.

SIMILAR TAXA

Long needles in clusters of 3. Cones shed annually but leaving basal scales. Similar to *P. taeda* and *P. elliotii* but both of these species shed cones entire, and the cones of *P. ponderosa* are more ovoid.

FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

LIFE CYCLE

Perennial; seed is wind dispersed.

YEAR NATURALISED

1925

ORIGIN

Western N. America

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Forestry

CONIFER IDENTIFICATION

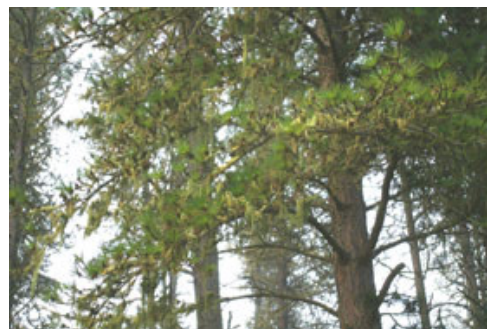
The National Wilding Conifer Control Programme team at Biosecurity New Zealand, a branch of Ministry for Primary Industries, has produced this wilding conifer [quick ID guide](#).

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pinus-ponderosa/>



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