# Pinus mugo

## COMMON NAMES
mountain pine

## BIOSTATUS
Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS
Not applicable

## CATEGORY
Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS
Trees & Shrubs - Gymnosperms

## FLOWER COLOURS
No flowers

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION
Small tree or multi-stemmed shrub. **Foliage** often dense, tending to be directed forward. **Leaves** in fascicles of two, 3–7 cm by 1–1.5 mm, dark green rigid, more or less curved but not twisted. **Male cones** < 1 cm long, broad-cylindric. **Female cones** shortly stalked, erect, not persisting long after maturity, 2.5–5.5 × 2.5–5 cm when open, ovoid or conic-ovoid, dark brown, symmetric. **Seed wing** oblong, c. 1 cm long.

## SIMILAR TAXA
Short needles in pairs, small symmetrical cones with no spike. No stalk on the cone (cf. *P. sylvestris*). *Pinus uncinata* is very similar, but has asymmetric cones, with some cone scales strongly elongated downwards.

## HABITAT
Terrestrial.

## GENUS
Pinus

## FAMILY
Pinaceae

## AUTHORITY
Pinus mugo Turra

## YEAR NATURALISED
1988

## ORIGIN
European mountains from France and Italy E.

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION
Agricultural

## LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL
Perennial; wind dispersed.

## EXTRA INFORMATION
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.

## ENVIRONMENTAL WEED (2024)

**This plant is named in a list of 386 environmental weeds in New Zealand 2024 prepared by DOC.** 759 candidate species were considered for inclusion on this new comprehensive list of environmental weeds in New Zealand. The species considered were drawn from published lists of weed species, lists of plants that must be reported or managed by law if observed, existing national and regional programmes and agreements for pest management, and species already managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC). Candidate species were then assessed to see if they were fully naturalised and whether they have more than minor impacts in natural ecosystems. Read the full report here.

## NVS CODE

PINMUG

## MORE INFORMATION

https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/pinus-mugo/

## PDF DATE

25 May 2026