

Pinus nigra subsp. nigra

COMMON NAME

black pine

FAMILY

Pinaceae

AUTHORITY

Pinus nigra J.F.Arnold subsp. *nigra*

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Gymnosperms

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Mainly shrubland and grassland.

WETLAND PLANT INDICATOR STATUS RATING

FACU: Facultative Upland

Occasionally is a hydrophyte but usually occurs in uplands (non-wetlands).

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Tall tree to 40 m with open-branching habit. **Bark** dark brown, fissured and forms scaly plates. **Needles** in pairs, up to 19 cm long, stiff, pointed, and grooved on the opposing sides of the pair. **Male and female flowers** arise in clusters on the branch tips in late spring. **Mature female cones** arise singly or in whorls of 2–4, 8 × 3 cm.

SIMILAR TAXA

Long dark green needles held in pairs, small cones that are shed annually. No spikes on cone scales. *Pinus mugo* subsp. *laricio* has less dense foliage and more flexible leaves than subsp. *nigra*, but the two subspecies can be difficult to distinguish.

FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

LIFE CYCLE

Seeds short-lived in soil bank; wind dispersed (Atkinson 1997). Requires low soil fertility (Atkinson 1997).

YEAR NATURALISED

1925

ORIGIN

Pyrenees to the Balkan Peninsula and Crimea—introduced from various parts of its range.

REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Forestry

TOLERANCES

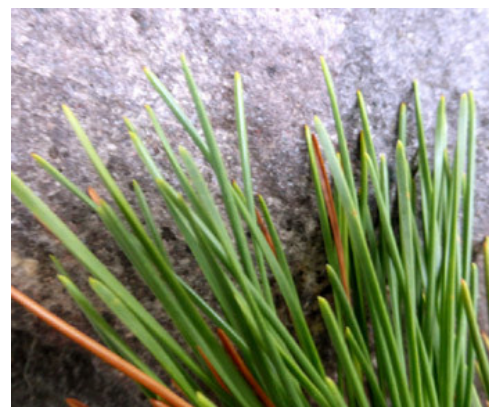
Tolerant of smoke and air pollution (Salmon 2000).

ETYMOLOGY

nigra: Black



Planted tree, near Huatoki Stream, New Plymouth seafront walkway. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 14/05/2018, Licence: CC BY-NC.



Needle tips of planted tree near Huatoki Stream, New Plymouth seafront walkway. Photographer: Colin C. Ogle, Date taken: 14/05/2018, Licence: CC BY-NC.

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](#).

REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING

Atkinson IAE. 1997. Problem weeds on New Zealand islands. *Science for Conservation 45*. Department of Conservation, Wellington, NZ. 58 p.

Salmon JT. 2000. The Trees in New Zealand: Exotic Trees: The Conifers. Reed Books, Auckland, NZ. 159 p.

MORE INFORMATION

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