

# 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.

## FEATURES

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 2cm long and in clusters on young shoots. Female cones are quite large, 6-14 by 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

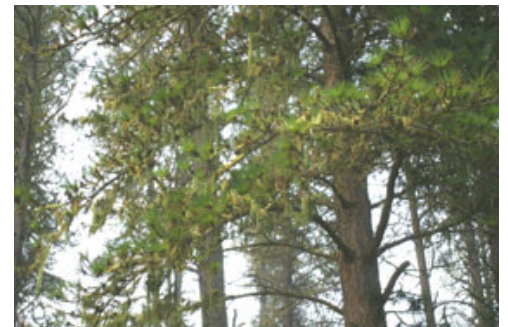
The National Wilding Conifer Control Programme team at Biosecurity New Zealand, a branch of Ministry for Primary Industries, has produced this wilding conifer quick ID guide.

## MORE INFORMATION

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



*Pinus ponderosa*. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



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