

# Pinus radiata

## COMMON NAME

Monterey pine

## FAMILY

Pinaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Pinus radiata* D.Don

## FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Gymnosperms

## NVS CODE

PINRAD

## HABITAT

Terrestrial. A plant of coastal and lowland habitats (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). A plant of low fertility sites (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). The plant occurs in scrub and forest margin, shrubland, short tussockland, sand dunes, cliffs and bluff communities (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995).

## FEATURES

Medium to large tree (40-60 m in cultivation). Needles are slender, about 15 cm long, deep or dark green and held in bunches of 3. Male cones are clustered at ends of new shoots in spring, light-brown to pinkish. Female cones are 12 by 8 cm, brown, in clusters of up to 6 and backwards pointing.

## SIMILAR TAXA

Dark green, relatively short (15 cm) stout (1.2-2 mm thick) needles in clusters of 3, rigid and spreading in different directions. New shoots usually brown. large persistent egg-shaped branch cones without spikes, held in clusters of 1-6.

## FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

## YEAR NATURALISED

1904

## ORIGIN

Coastal California, N. America



*Pinus radiata*. Photographer: John Smith-Dodsworth



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**Reason For Introduction**

Forestry

**Life Cycle Comments**

Perennial. Seeds germinate in Spring (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995).

**Seed**

Seed is produced annually (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). Seed known to remain viable at 4 years (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995).

**Dispersal**

Seed is dispersed by wind (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995).

**Tolerances**

The plant is tolerant to drought and intolerant to shade and frost (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). Physical damage and grazing result in regrowth if green foliage remains intact (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). Responds readily after fire, if a seed source is adjacent (Timmins & MacKenzie 1995). Requires very low to medium soil fertility (Atkinson 1997).

**MORE INFORMATION**

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