

# Pinus strobus

## COMMON NAMES

eastern white pine, northern white pine

## BIOSTATUS

Exotic

## CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

## CATEGORY

Vascular

## STRUCTURAL CLASS

Trees & Shrubs - Gymnosperms

## FLOWER COLOURS

No flowers

## DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Medium tree, reaching 50 m with a smooth trunk. **Needles** in bunches of 5, 4–13 cm × 0.5–0.7 mm, green above, bluish below and broadly triangular in cross section. **Mature cones** slender and elongated (3–5 × 7–16 cm), cylindrical and hanging.

## SIMILAR TAXA

*P. strobus* can be easily distinguished from any other naturalised pine in NZ by the mainly smooth trunk, the needles in bunches of 5, and elongated soft cones. The cultivated *Pinus wallichiana* is very similar but has glabrous shoots and longer needles and cones than *P. strobus*. The related *Pinus monticola* has larger cones, leaves that last about a year longer and a somewhat denser and narrower growth habit.

## HABITAT

Terrestrial.

## GENUS

Pinus

## FAMILY

Pinaceae

## AUTHORITY

*Pinus strobus* L.

## YEAR NATURALISED

1957

## ORIGIN

Eastern N. America

## REASON FOR INTRODUCTION

Forestry

## LIFE CYCLE AND DISPERSAL

Perennial; reproduces by wind dispersed seed.

## 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

PINSTR

## MORE INFORMATION

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

## PDF DATE

27 May 2026