

CONIFER KEY

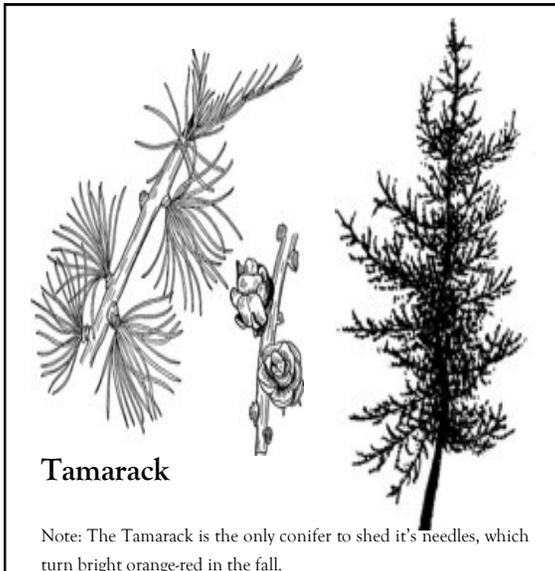
1. a) Needles in bundles/groups. Go to #2

1. b) Needles single or flattened & scaly. Go to #6

2. a) Needles 2-5 per bundle. Go to #3

2. b) Needles in clusters. The BARK is dark gray and flaky.

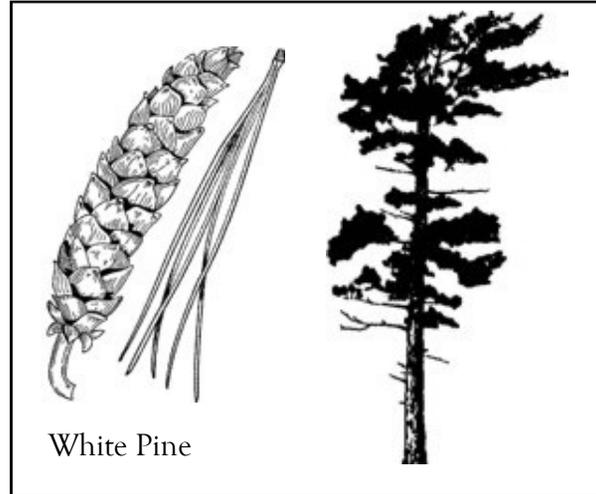
Species: Tamarack



3. a) Needles in pairs. Go to #4

3. b) Five needles per bundle. Bark smooth on young trees but deeply ridged when larger.

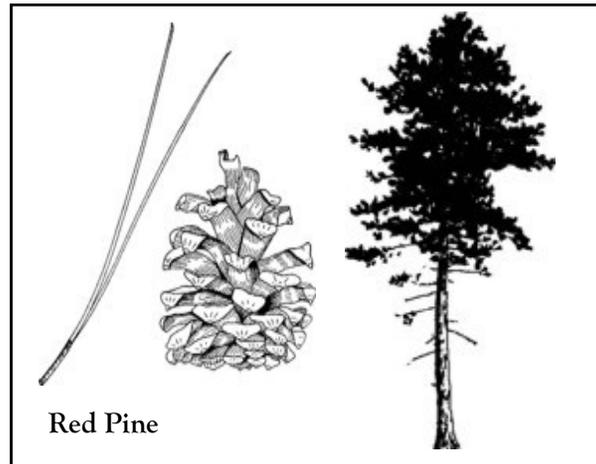
Species: White Pine



4. a) Needles under 5 cm in length. Go to #5

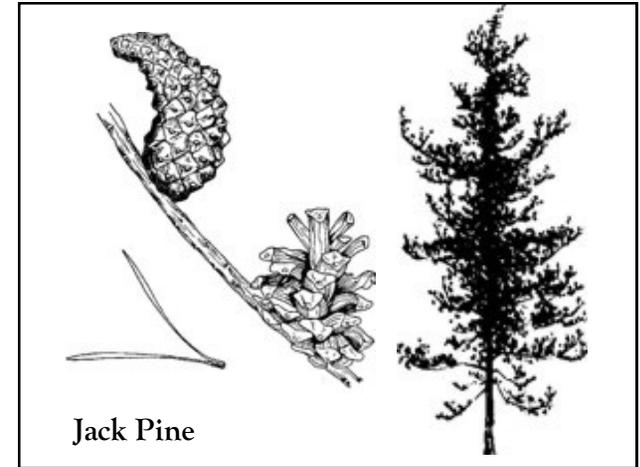
4. b) Needles 8 - 16 cm long. The BARK is scaly. The loose "pieces" are reddish, pinkish, gray, and brown.

Species: Red Pine



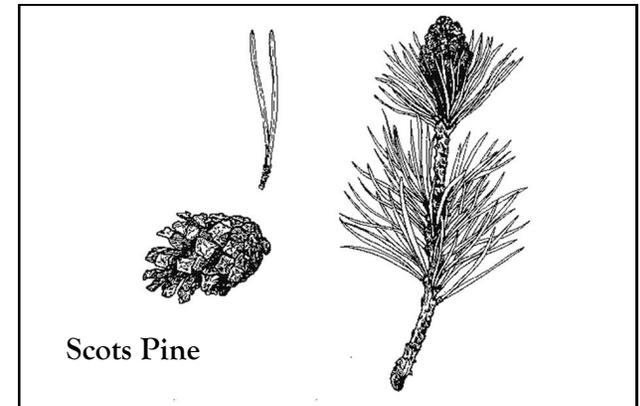
5. a) Bark dark gray Needles yellow green. Seed cones asymmetrical, usually in pairs.

Species: Jack Pine



5. b) Bark orange-brown. Needles spirally twisted.

Species: Scots Pine (non-native)



6. a) Needles square (4 sided), round, or scaly. Go to #7

6. b) Needles flat. Go to #10

7. a) Needles square or round. Go to #9

7. b) Needles flat and scaly. Go to #8

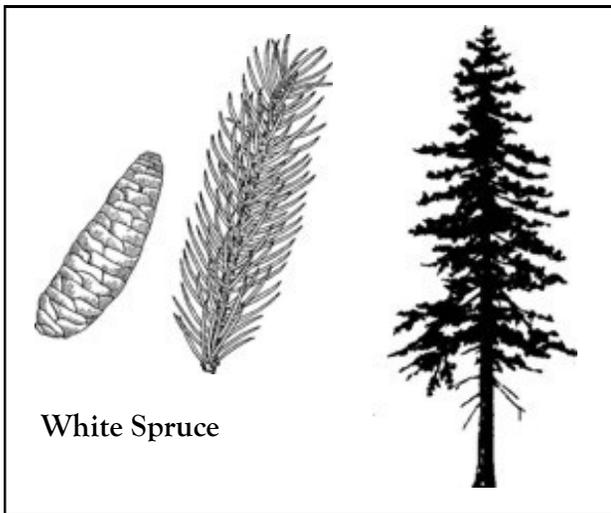
8. a) Needles scaly, flattened, dull yellowish-green. Female cones dry pale red-brown. **Species: Northern (Eastern) White Cedar**

8. b) Needles two types flat scaly on mature branches, sharp needles on young branches. Female cones berry like, deep blue with whitish bloom.

Species: Eastern Red Cedar

9. a) Needles 0.8- 2 cm long, twigs hairless. Seed cones 3 - 6 cm long. The scaly BARK is light gray or brown.

Species: White Spruce

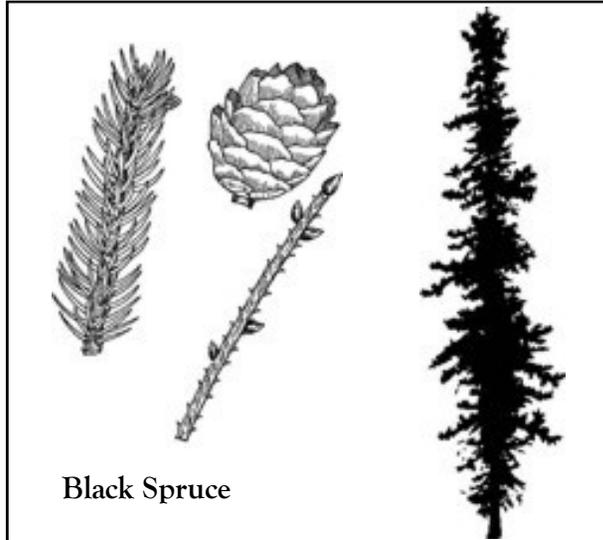


Note: Norway Spruce a non-native species has hanging cones that are 10 - 18 cm long and the branchlets hang.

Colorado or Blue Spruce a non-native species varies in colour from bluish-green to silvery-white at the tips. It has cones that are 6 to 10 cm long.

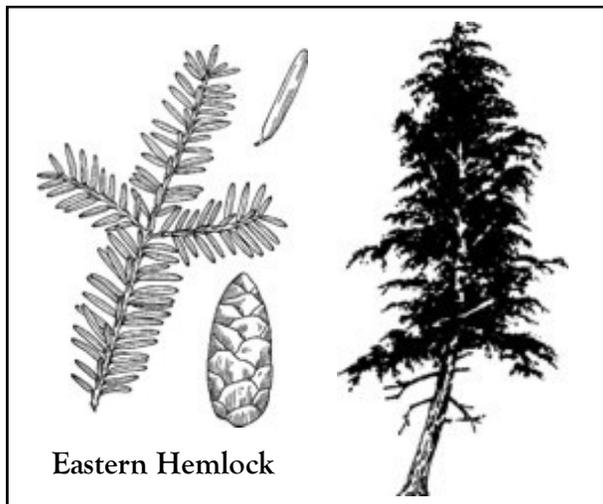
9. b) Needles dark green, dull, 0.6 - 2 cm long, new twigs with hair. Seed cones 2 - 3 cm long. The scaly BARK is dark gray.

Species: Black Spruce



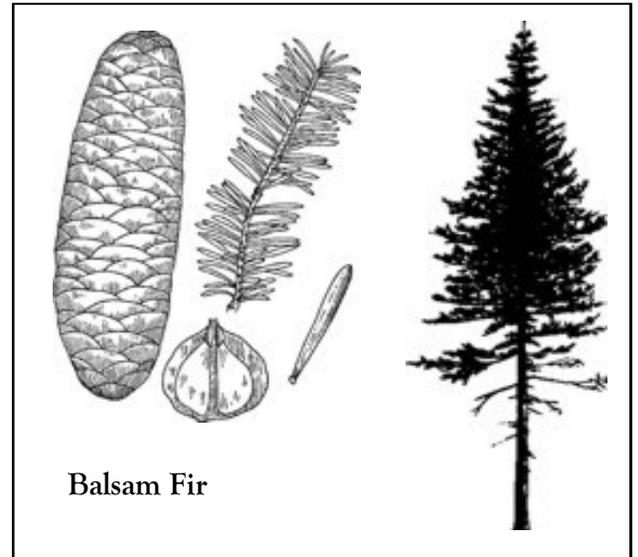
10. a) Needles 1.3 cm long with short stem. Seed cones hanging. the BARK is thick, corky, and heavily ridged.

Species: Eastern Hemlock



10. b) Needles 2 cm - 3.2 cm long, no stem. Seed cones stand up. BARK is mostly smooth and steely gray. On healthier trees, PITCH POCKETS are present. When pinched, they shoot out very sticky pitch.

Species: Balsam Fir



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