

Dwarf and Unusual Conifers for Midwest Gardens

Paul Pfeifer
Hidden Lake Gardens

















What is a Conifer?

- Kingdom: Plant
 - Division: Coniferophyta
 - ...
 - Genera: *Abies*, *Cedrus*, *Chamaecyparis*, *Ginkgo*, *Juniperus*, *Larix*, *Metasequoia*, *Picea*, *Pinus*, *Taxodium*, *Taxus*, *Thuja*, *Tsuga*, etc.



What is a Conifer?

- Unenclosed (naked) seed located on upper scale contained in a cone (usually).
 - Naked seed or ovule.



Cones





What is a Conifer?

- Woody plants.
- Mainly trees.
- Usually evergreens with needles or scales.
- Timber, lumber, paper, other products.



Evergreen versus Conifer

- Are all evergreens conifers?

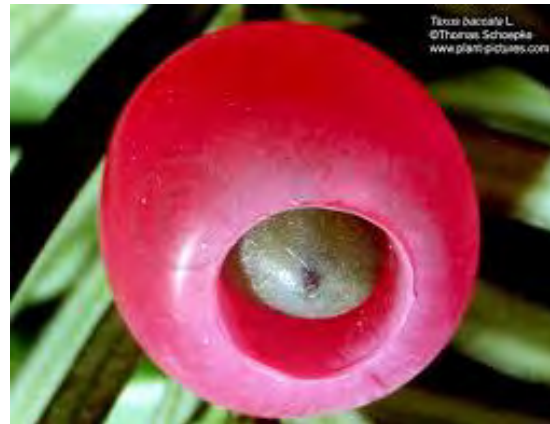


Evergreen versus Conifer

- Are all conifers evergreen?



Do all conifers have cones?



Classification of Dwarf Conifers

- Miniature: <1" growth/yr; <1' growth at 10 yrs.
- Dwarf: 1" to 6" per yr; 1' to 6' growth at 10 yrs.
- Intermediate: 6" to 12" per yr; 6' to 12' at 10 yrs.
- Large: >12" growth/yr; > 12' growth at 10 yrs.

- Source: American Conifer Society.



Quick Review of Botanical Names

- *Picea pungens*
- *Picea pungens* var. *glauca*
- *Picea pungens* f. *glauca*
- *Picea pungens* 'Glauca Globosa'
- *Picea pungens* 'Glauca Pendula'



Harper Collection of Dwarf and Rare Conifers





From left: Jack Wikle, Chub Harper, Sam Lovall

















Harper Collection Stewards



Coneheads!



Photo credit: NBC.com

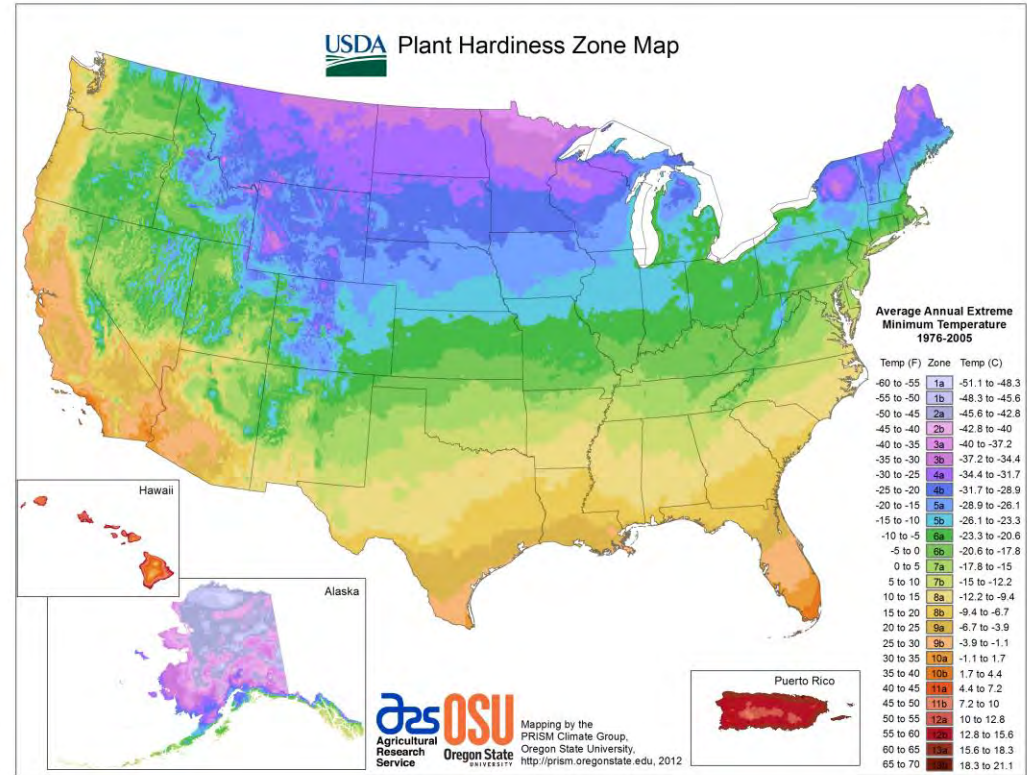
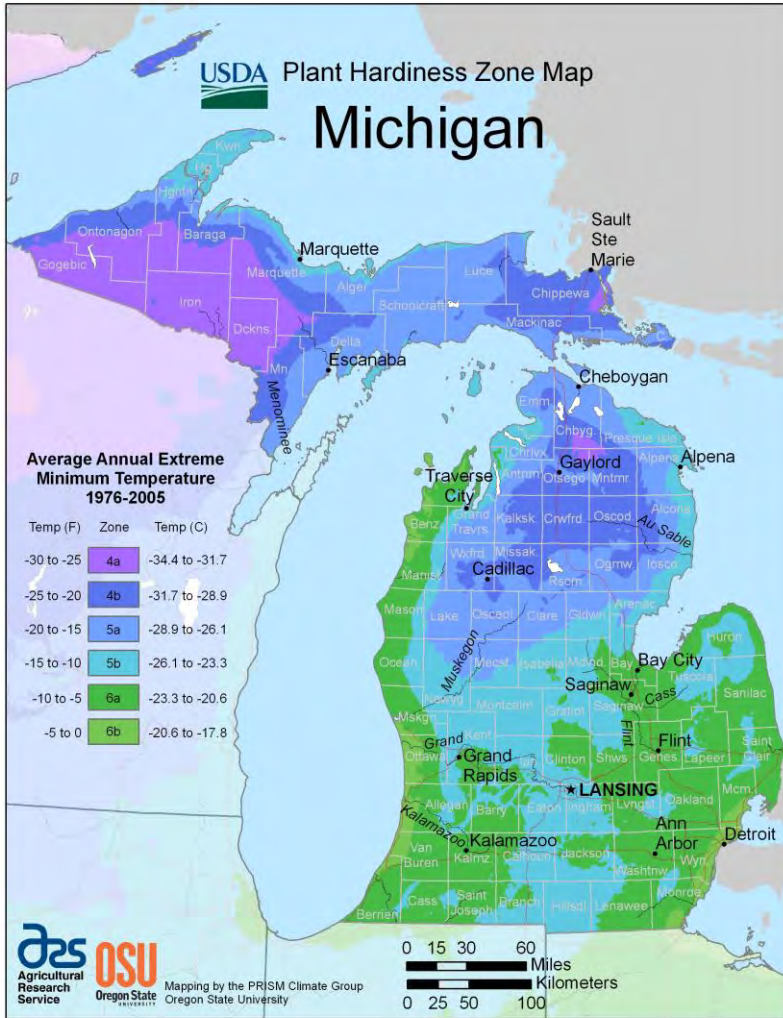


ACS

American Conifer Society

Addicted Conifer Syndrome





Where do dwarf conifers come from?

Witch's Broom –
Taxodium distichum





Taxodium distichum 'Gee Wizz'



Witch's Broom – *Abies concolor*





Abies concolor 'Hosta La Vista'



Witch's Broom – *Picea abies*



Picea abies 'Merrell Broom'



Chamaecyparis nootkatensis

‘Glauca’



‘Green Arrow’



Use in the Landscape



Focal Point







Use in the Landscape

- Screen, Fence, Hedgerow











Use in the Landscape

- Background









Use in the Landscape

- Foundation



- photo credit: www.finegardening.com



Use in the Landscape

- Groundcover







Effect in the Landscape

- Color













Effect in the Landscape

- Texture





Effect in the Landscape

- Shape, Form







Effect in the Landscape

- Size







Landscaping with Conifers

Conifer Considerations



Abies fraseri 'Julian Potts'
Fraser Fir



Abies koreana 'Horstmann's Silberlocke'
Korean Fir



Abies numidica 'Pendula'

Algerian Fir



Calocedrus decurrens

California Incensecedar



Cedrus libani var. *stenacoma*



Cedar of Lebanon



Cryptomeria japonica Japanese Cedar

'Birodo-Sugi'



'Globosa
Nana'

Ginkgo biloba

Maidenhair Tree



Ginkgo biloba

'Jade Butterfly'



Ginkgo biloba

“Espalier” Maidenhair Tree





Larix laricina

Tamarack, American Larch



Larix decidua

European Larch



Metasequoia glyptostroboides



Dawn Redwood



Microbiota decussata

Russian Arborvitae



Platycladus orientalis 'Morgan'



Chinese Arborvitae



Platycladus orientalis 'Franky Boy'

Chinese Arborvitae



Picea omorika

‘Armintrout’

Serbian Spruce

‘Froedenberg’



Picea omorika 'Pendula'



Serbian Spruce



Picea omorika 'Pendula Bruns'

Serbian Spruce





Picea glauca 'Pendula'



White Spruce



Pinus densiflora 'Umbraculifera'

Tanyosho Pine



Pinus contorta var. *latifolia* 'Chief Joseph' Lodgepole Pine



Pinus strobus

Eastern White Pine



'Nana'

'Globosa'

Pseudotsuga menziesii 'Pendula'

Weeping Douglasfir



Sciadopytis verticillata



Japanese Umbrella Pine

'Joe Kozy'



Taxus x media 'Bean Pole'

Anglo-Japanese Yew



Thuja plicata 'Whipchord'



Giant Arborvitae
Western Red Cedar



Thuja plicata '4Ever'

Goldy™ Western Red Cedar



Thujaopsis dolobrata False Arborvitae

'Variegata'



'Nana'



Thujaopsis Nana - mature specimen



Tsuga canadensis 'Cole Prostrate'

Canada Hemlock



Tsuga caroliniana 'Labar's Weeping'

Carolina Hemlock



Tsuga chinensis



Chinese Hemlock









































Conifer Bibliography and Resources

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- Iseli Nursery
- Rich's Foxwillow Pines Nursery
- Gee Farms
- Blue Horizon Nursery and Gardens
- Conifer Kingdom



Hidden Lake Gardens

6214 W. Monroe Rd (Hwy M-50)

Tipton, MI 49287

517-431-2060

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