

VILDE ARTER AF NÅLETRÆER I DANMARK

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Wild Species of Conifers in Denmark

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SUMMARY

The species of conifers introduced to Denmark are discussed, with regards to their degree of naturalisation within the country. Not enough is known of this subject, and more information is needed. One species is surely indigenous: **common juniper** (*Juniperus communis* L.) and two more may well be so: **common yew** (*Taxus baccata* L.) and **Scots pine** (*Pinus sylvestris* L.), but their present status in the wild is mainly the result of introductions. Several species of conifers introduced for forestry and/or for amenity are now occurring in natural or semi-natural habitats, some of them having reached at least second generation seedlings, thereby they must count as naturalised and have become wild. That goes for at least the following four species: **European silver-fir** (*Abies alba* Miller), **Norway spruce** (*Picea abies* (L.) H. Karst.), **white spruce** (*Picea glauca* (Moench) Voss) and **dwarf mountain-pine** (*Pinus mugo* Turra). A few very rare species might also be locally naturalised, e.g. **Weymouth pine** (*Pinus strobus* L.) and **western hemlock-spruce** (*Tsuga heterophylla* (Raf.) Sarg.), but more information is needed.

Other commonly self-sown conifer taxa, not yet known to be naturalised, are 9 in number: **giant fir** (*Abies grandis* (Douglas ex D. Don) Lindl.), **Lawson's false cypress** (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana* (A. Murray) Parl.), **European larch** (*Larix decidua* Miller), **hybrid larch** (*L. ×marschlinsii* Coaz), **Sitka-spruce** (*Picea sitchensis* (Bong.) Carrière), **lodgepole pine** (*Pinus contorta* Douglas ex Loudon), **Austrian pine** (*Pinus nigra* J. F. Arnold) **Douglas fir** (*Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Mirb.) Franco) and **giant or western red-cedar** (*Thuja plicata* Donn ex D. Don). At least twenty other conifer species and hybrids are self-sown only rarely in Denmark, or they are known as self-sown from cultivated habitats only, as e.g. in gardens or in plantations for greenery production.