

Pinus taeda a/k/a Loblolly pine

Leaf: Evergreen needles, 6 to 9 inches long, with (usually) three yellow-green needles per fascicle.

Flower: Monoecious; males long cylindrical, red to yellow, in clusters at branch tips; females yellow to purple.

Fruit: Ovoid to cylindrical, 3 to 6 inch red-brown cones; umbo is armed with a short spine, maturing in early fall.

Twig: Orange-brown in color, fine to moderately stout; buds are narrowly ovoid, light reddish brown.

Bark: Initially red- to gray-brown and scaly; older trees are ridged and furrowed, with somewhat rounded scaly plates; very old trees have red-brown, flat scaly plates.

Form: A medium to large tree can reach well over 100 feet tall, self-prunes well and develops a fairly straight trunk and an oval, somewhat open crown.

Looks like: [pitch pine](#) - [pond pine](#) - [slash pine](#) - [shortleaf pine](#)



© Copyright 2010, Virginia Tech Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation, all rights reserved. Photos courtesy: John R. Seiler, Edward C. Jensen, John A. Peterson, Michael Aust, John Bailey, Claude L. Brown, Bruce Bongarten, Susa D. Day, Richard E. Kreh, Larry H. McCormick, Alex X. Niemiera, Oana Popescu, David W. Smith, Kim C. Steiner, James E. Ward, Rodney E. Will, Shephard M. Zedaker
Text written by: John R. Seiler, Edward C. Jensen, or John A. Peterson

Reprinted by Permission. For Public Educational and Training Purposes Only