



Colorado Spruce *Picea pungens* ("pungens" alludes to the sharp, resinous odor of crushed leaves and perhaps the acidic taste when chewed) has a dense, pyramidal shape, stiff horizontal branches with stiff sharp-pointed four angled $\frac{3}{4}$ " to $1\frac{1}{4}$ " long needles. The trunk is straight and tapers to the top of the tree which can reach 60'-100' tall. Bark is pale gray, becoming reddish-brown or gray and furrowed with scaly ridges with age. Overall tree color varies according to individual and habitat, and can be silvery-white or even dull green, but is most often blue-green. Cones hanging from the branches and are 2 to 4 inches long, cylindrical and taper at the ends producing good seed crops every 3 to 4 years.

Insects/Diseases: Spruce is susceptible to spruce budworm and spruce gall aphid, fungal needle cast, fungal cankers, and spruce bark beetle.