Pseudotsuga menziesu.....Douglas fir Pinus ponderosa.....Ponderosa pine Finus flexilis......Limber pine Pinus edulis.....Pinyon pine Pinus contorta.....Lodgepole pine Pinus albicaulis......Whitebark pine Picea pungens.....Blue spruce Picea engelmannii......Engelmann spruce Kocky Mountain Juniper nunberus scopulorum..... Juniperus osteospermum......Utah Juniper Abies lasiocarpa.....Subalpine fir Scientific names:

Key to the **Conifer Trees** of Wyoming



Adapted from Dorn, R.D. Vascular Plants of Wyoming, 3rd ed. 2001







spruce. right), and engelmann white spruce (below largest of the three), are blue spruce (right; alpine fir). Pictured like the cones of subhang downward (un-Mature spruce cones

. Leaves short and scale-like, cones like perries2 (junipers)	
. Leaves (needles) much longer than wide3	
2. Leaves longer than wide, edges smooth; perries usually with 2 seeds	
Rocky Mountain Juniper	
2. Leaf length and width approximately equal, edges not smooth; berries usually with one seed.	
8. Needles attached to twig in bundles4 (pines) 8. Needles attached singly to twig8	
4. Needles in bundles of two or three	
4. Needles in bundles of five	
n lengthPonderosa Pine	

attached to the tree. fall from the cone, leaving only the core are rarely seen - the rounded, paper-like scales cone scales. Subalpine fir cones (right) ends of mice diving for cover beneath the distinctive bracts that look like the rear cones. The cones of douglas fir (left) have uncy thinner than the woody scales of pine Spruce and fir cones have scales that are





5. Needles in bundles of two, needles and cones 6. Cones with relatively few, blunt scales and large seeds......Pinyon Pine 6. Cones with many sharply-spiked scales and small, winged seeds.....Lodgepole Pine 7. Cones round, less than 3 inches long, usually 7. Cones elongate, greater than 3 inches, remaining intact.....Limber Pine 8. Needles stiff, sharp, and with square crosssection (can be rolled between fingers), twigs rough where needles have fallen......9 (spruces)

8. Needles relatively soft and blunt, and flat

(can't be rolled), twigs relatively smooth where

needles have fallen.....11 (firs and pseudo-firs)

nourishment for grizzly bears. whitebark pine are an important source of in the western mountains. The seeds of rocky sites, and whitebark pine, found only (left), found throughout the state in dry, Myoming's 5-needle pines are limber pine

9. Cones longer than 2 ½ inches.....Blue Spruce

10. Scales of cones smooth and rounded on the

edges, needles 1 inch or less in length

length.....Engelmann Spruce

11. Needles narrowest at base. Cones with three-

pronged bracts extending between scales

......Douglas Fir (not a real fir)

falling apart at maturitySubalpine Fir

11. Needles not narrowing towards base, cones

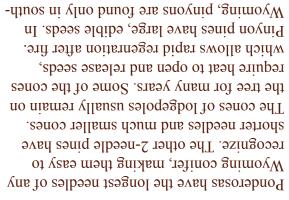
10. Scales of cones pointed and somewhat

toothed at tip, needles greater than 1 inch in









ern Sweetwater county.





A hand lens or microscope is necessary to see the minute, scale-like leaves of juniper trees. Besides the two tree species, there are also two shrubby junipers in Wyoming. The berries of common juniper (one of the shrubs) provide flavor to gin.

Junipers are well adapted to heat and drought, and can be found in dry, open sites from the foothills to the montane.

