



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

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# University of Wisconsin Garden Facts

## Conifer Disease Quick Reference

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### Root and Crown Rots

**Hosts:** All conifers

**Pathogens:** *Pythium* spp., *Phytophthora* spp.,  
*Rhizoctonia solani*, *Fusarium* spp.,  
*Cylindrocarpon* spp.

For more information see: UW Garden Facts XHT1070



### Rhizosphaera Needle Cast

**Hosts:** Colorado blue spruce, other spruces, many  
other conifers

**Pathogen:** *Rhizosphaera kalkhoffii*

For more information see: UW Garden Facts XHT1006  
Extension Bulletin A2640



### Cytospora Canker

**Host:** Colorado blue spruce, other spruces

**Pathogen:** *Cytospora kunzei*

For more information see: UW Garden Facts XHT1003  
Extension Bulletin A2639



### Spruce Needle Drop

**Hosts:** Spruces

**Pathogen:** Unknown (thought possibly to be  
*Setomelannoma holmii*)



### Gymnosporangium Rusts

**Hosts:** Junipers

Apple, crabapple, hawthorn, quince

**Pathogen:** *Gymnosporangium* spp.

For more information see: UW Garden Facts XHT1009  
Extension Bulletin A2598



### Phomopsis Tip Blight

**Host:** Junipers

**Pathogen:** *Phomopsis juniperovora*

For more information see: UW Garden Facts XHT1099



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### Diplodia Shoot Blight and Canker

**Hosts:** Pines (Austrian, red, jack, Scots, mugo), many other conifers

**Pathogen:** *Diplodia* spp.

**For more information see:** UW Garden Facts XHT1010  
Extension Bulletin A3643



### Dothistroma Needle Blight

**Hosts:** Pines (Austrian, red, Scots, mugo, ponderosa, and others)

**Pathogen:** *Dothistroma pini*

**For more information see:** UW Garden Facts XHT1078  
Extension Bulletin A2620



### Drought Stress

**Hosts:** All conifers

**Cause:** Insufficient water



### Winter Injury

**Hosts:** All conifers, particularly yews and junipers

**Cause:** Dehydration over the winter

**For more information see:** UW Garden Facts XHT1239



### Herbicide Damage

**Hosts:** All conifers

**Cause:** Exposure to a growth regulator herbicide such as 2,4-D or dicamba

**For more information see:** UW Garden Facts XHT1004  
UW-Extension Bulletin A3286

**For more information on conifer diseases:** Contact your county Extension agent.