

***Pinus glabra* Walt.**

Common Name	Spruce Pine
Botanical Name	<i>Pinus glabra</i>
Family	Pinaceae
Form	Tree
Growth Habit	An evergreen tree that grows from 80'-100' in height and 2'-2 ½' in diameter, having a long, compact crown.
Bark	Gray bark that is from smooth to closely fissured into small plates. It appears more like the bark of typical hardwoods than that of pines.
Leaves	The 2"-4" long needles are dark green and somewhat flattened, appearing on branches in clusters of 2.
Cones	The Spruce Pine has many reddish-brown ovulate cones, each of which may stay on the tree from 3-4 years and become grayish with age. They are egg-shaped and from 1 ¼"-2 ½" long, with tiny spines at the tips of scales. Pollen bearing cones are reddish-brown and inconspicuous at branch ends.
Fruit	The cones open at maturity, releasing winged seeds. The seeds are about 3/16" long, while the wings are about 3/4" long.
Soil conditions	This pine thrives in rich soils.
Water	Found in moist sites; tolerant of occasional flooding.
Light Requirement	Full sun to light shade
Native Growth Zone	8
Propagation	Seed
Habitat	The Spruce Pine is typical of rich woodlands and moist lowlands and is found in mixed stands with other hardwoods.
Remarks	This pine is unique in that the habitat in which it is found is not typical of that of the other pine species of Florida. The mixed hardwood stands and rich soils of its habitat are not favored by other pine species. Its bark also sets it apart with its dark gray color and relative smoothness when compared to other pine species, giving it a distinct appearance.

Works Consulted