

2019 CITIZEN FORESTER FOCUS TREES -- JUNE

Baldcypress

Pond Cypress



Leaf-type Comparison



Scale-like



Broad and flat



Needles



CONIFERS — LEAF CHARACTERISTICS

■ Multiple Needle

- Pines -- bundles of 2, 3 or 5
- Larches -- clustered
- Hemlocks --
- Yews

■ Single Needle

- Spruces
- Baldcypress
- Firs

■ Scale-like

- Cedars
- Cypress
- Junipers
- Redcedar



IDENTIFYING CONIFERS

TREES OF TEXAS KEY:

Scaly – Junipers, Red cedar
Needles

Single -- Baldcypress,
Spruce, Fir

Clustered – Pine



Short needles or scales, evergreen; closely spaced in opposite pairs or whorls of 3, often overlapping and obscuring the stem; seeds in cones, some cones berry-like



Needles evergreen, in bundles of 2, 3, or 5; seeds in cones



Needles deciduous (or evergreen), in tufts of 10 or more on dwarf shoots, also single on long shoots; seeds in cones



Needles evergreen, single, flat or 4-sided; seeds in cones



Needles evergreen, single, flat; twigs and buds green; single seed in a fleshy cup



BALD CYPRESS— *TAXODIUM DISTICHUM*

Size: large (up to 100' or larger)

Habitat: swampy, wet soils – riverbanks and flood plain lakes, river bottoms

Life Span: 500 – 750 years or longer



Source:
<http://texastreeid.tamu.edu/content/TreeDetails?id=121>

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Leaves (Needles)



Fruit (Cones)



Trunk



NEEDLES — BALD CYPRESS



3/8 “ – 3/4 ” long, borne singly in two rows on slender green twigs.

Needles are feather-like, soft, flat and flexible, appearing in late spring.

Dull, light green above, whitish beneath.

Needles turn brown, russet or copper-colored and shed with twig in fall.



TRUNK AND BARK – BALD CYPRESS



Bark is Brown or Gray with long fibrous or scaly ridges

Crown of widely spreading branches, flattened on top

Trunks enlarged at base and spreading into ridges or 'buttresses'

Often with cone-shaped 'knees' projecting from submerged roots.



FLOWER AND FRUIT— BALD CYPRESS



Monoecious

Small ($\frac{3}{4}$ " – 1" diameter) cone, round purple-gray cones.

1 -- 2 at end of twig; several flattened 4-angled, hard cone-scales shed at maturity in autumn.

Two brown, 3-angled seeds nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ " under cone scale.

Tiny pollen cones in narrow drooping panicles 4-5" long.



POND CYPRESS— *Taxodium ascendens* a.k.a *Taxodium distichum* 'var. nutans'



Size: Medium to large, to 50 – 75 feet.

Habitat: Wet soils, shallow ponds with still water, river bottoms.



Leaves



Seeds & Flowers



Bark & Trunk





BARK AND TRUNK — POND CYPRESS

Similar to Baldcypress;
fibrous, scaly, or commonly
peeling off in long, thin strips.

Reddish-brown bark
weathered to an ashy gray.

In or around standing water,
often shows buttresses and
knees.



LEAVES — POND CYPRESS



Deciduous. $\frac{1}{2}$ '' to $\frac{3}{4}$ '' long, scale-like appearance, in ranks.

Leaves are pointy, unlike the Baldcypress, and often point up.

Usually darkens in fall, turning to light copper brown.





SEEDS & FLOWERS — POND CYPRESS



Female: Cones similar to Baldcypress, small, round ($\frac{3}{4}$ " – 1" diameter,) purplish-gray).

Male: pollen sacks in drooping panicles, approx. 4" long.



POND CYPRESS – SOUTH FORT WORTH



CADDO LAKE



CADDO LAKE

