

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Cones and foliage. Photographer Bryant Olsen, unknown place



Branches with cones. Photographer Jeffrey J. Witcosky, USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region, USA



Tree. Photographer Jeffrey J. Witcosky, USDA Forest Service, Rocky Mountain Region, USA

Common name

Blue spruce

Family

Pinaceae

Where found

Garden **escape**. Sydney area. Lower Blue Mountains.

Notes

Introduced tree to 50 m tall. Leaves spine-tipped. Bark grey-brown, scaly, becoming furrowed. Branches yellow-brown, drooping. Twigs usually hairless, yellow-brown. Leaves aromatic when rubbed, spirally arranged, 1.6–3 cm long, rigid, 4-angled in cross section, blue-green. Male and female **cones** on the same plant. Male cones emerge reddish purple and ripen to yellow-brown, scattered throughout the tree. Female cones cylindrical, 50–102 mm long at maturity, pale green, reddish or purple when young, pale brown at maturity, made up of many papery or thinly woody pointed **scales**, in the tops of the trees.

VICFLORA description: <https://vicflora.rbg.vic.gov.au/flora/taxon/ebbbe48c-990a-482c-b940-be7ad512810f> (accessed 10 March 2021)

Gymnosperm Database description: https://www.conifers.org/pi/Picea_pungens.php (accessed 10 March 2021)

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