

Dwarf and Unusual Conifers for Midwest Gardens

1. Conifers vs. Evergreens
 - a. What is an Evergreen?
 - b. What is a Conifer?
2. Definition and Classification of Dwarf Conifers
 - a. Miniature – less than 1 inch of growth per year; 1 foot of growth at 10 years.
 - b. Dwarf – 1 inch to 6 inches of growth per year; 1 foot to 6 feet at 10 years.
 - c. Intermediate – 6 to 12 inches of growth per year; 6 to 15 feet at 10 years.
 - d. Large – more than 12 inches of growth per year; more than 15 feet at 10 years.
3. Quick Review of Botanical Names
Genus, specific epithet, species, hybrid, variety, cultivar
4. Brief History of and Orientation to the Harper Collection of Dwarf and Rare Conifers
Elardo, R. J. and Courtney, S. W. (Eds.). (2012). *People and Plants: The Harper Collection of Dwarf and Rare Conifers*. Ann Arbor, MI: White Pine Printers
5. Other Conifers at Hidden Lake Gardens
 - a. Evergreen Hill
 - b. Juniper Hill
 - c. Visitors Center
 - d. Front Gate
 - e. Main Drive
6. Selection of Dwarf and Unusual Conifers
 - a. *Abies* - Firs
 - b. *Calocedrus* – Incense Cedar
 - c. *Cedrus* - Cedar
 - d. *Chamaecyparis* – False Cypress
 - e. *Cryptomeria* – Japanese Cedar
 - f. *Ginkgo* – Maidenhair Tree
 - g. *Juniperus*- Juniper
 - h. *Larix* and *Pseudolarix* - Larch
 - i. *Metasequoia* – Dawn Redwood
 - j. *Microbiota* – Russian Arborvitae
 - k. *Picea* - Spruce
 - l. *Pinus* – Pine
 - m. *Platycladus* – Oriental Arborvitae

- n. *Pseudotsuga* – Douglas Fir
- o. *Sciadopitys* – Japanese Umbrella Pine
- p. *Taxodium* – Bald Cypress
- q. *Taxus* – Yew and *Cephalotaxus* – Plum-yew
- r. *Thuja* - Arborvitae
- s. *Thujopsis* – False Arborvitae
- t. *Tsuga* - Hemlock

7. Conifer Information Resources

- a. American Conifer Society <http://conifersociety.org/>
 - i. Reference Gardens
 - 1. Hidden Lake Gardens, Tipton, MI
 - 2. Bickelhaupt Arboretum, Clinton, IA
 - 3. Longenecker Horticultural Gardens, Madison, WI
- b. Arboreta and Botanical Gardens <https://publicgardens.org/>
 - i. Secrest Arboretum, Wooster, OH
 - ii. Dawes Arboretum, Newark, OH
 - iii. Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, IL
 - iv. Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL
- c. Books and Catalogs
 - i. Bloom, A. (2010). *Gardening With Conifers*. Buffalo, NY: Firefly Books.
 - ii. Dirr, M. A. (2009). *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*. Champaign, IL: Stipes Publishing.
 - iii. Eckenwalder, J. E. (2009). *Conifers of the World: the Complete Reference*. Portland, OR: Timber Press.
 - iv. Farjon, A. (2008). *A Natural History of Conifers*. Portland, OR: Timber Press.
 - v. Flint, H. L. (1997). *Landscape Plants for Eastern North America*. New York, NY: John Wiley & Sons.
 - vi. Krussmann, J. G. (1985). *Manual of Cultivated Conifers*. Portland, OR: Timber Press.
 - vii. Van Gelderen, D. M. and van Hoey Smith, J. R. P. (1996). *Conifers: The Illustrated Encyclopedia (Volume 1 and 2)*. Portland, OR: Timber Press.
 - viii. Iseli Nursery, Boring, OR, www.iselinursery.com
 - ix. Conifer Kingdom, Silverton, OR, www.coniferkingdom.com
 - x. Gee Farms, Stockbridge, MI, www.geefarms.com
 - xi. Blue Horizon Nursery and Gardens, Grand Junction, MI, www.bluehorizonnursery.com
 - xii. Rich's Foxwillow Pines Nursery, Woodstock, IL, www.richsfoxwillowpines.com

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