

Red Pine (Norway Pine)

Pinus resinosa

Red pine is a long-lived native that landowners often plant for long-term income. It has long, thin needles that grow in clusters of 2 and cones approximately 2" long. Trees self-prune, losing their lower branches as they grow. Dense stands of pure red pine can provide cover and habitat, but not as much as a diverse planting might. Red pines are valuable for lumber and pulpwood products.

Height: 60' to 80', may grow up to 100'

In favorable conditions, red pines can grow 10 inches per year for the first 60 years of their life. They usually attain their maximum height at 60 to 120 years old.

Planting environment:

Soil: Sandy to sandy loam, dry uplands, or moist lowlands

Soil moisture: Well-drained, but not excessively dry

Sunlight: Shade intolerant (needs >6 hours of sun a day)

Clearing the area before planting is beneficial for seedlings, as in nature red pines are some of the first to grow after fire.

Red pine requires 8' to 10' spacing between seedlings.

Maintenance:

Thin mature trees for growth and form if they were planted less than 10' apart. Clear brush from around the seedlings for the first few years until they get tall enough to compete for light.

Top diseases/pests:

1. Bark beetles if trees are too close together
2. Seedlings will usually die from diplodia shoot blight if they're planted underneath existing red pine.

