

**Norfolk Island pine**  
*Araucaria heterophylla*



# Norfolk Island pine

*Araucaria heterophylla*

Family: Araucariaceae

**Stem & Leaf Type:** woody

**Leaf Color:** dark green

**Fall Color:** n/a

**Flower Time:** n/a

**Flower Color:** n/a

**Fruit:** oval, green cones that change to brown, 3—6” long, not significant

**Light:** bright, indirect

**Moisture:** well-drained

**USDA Hardiness**

**Zones:** 9-10

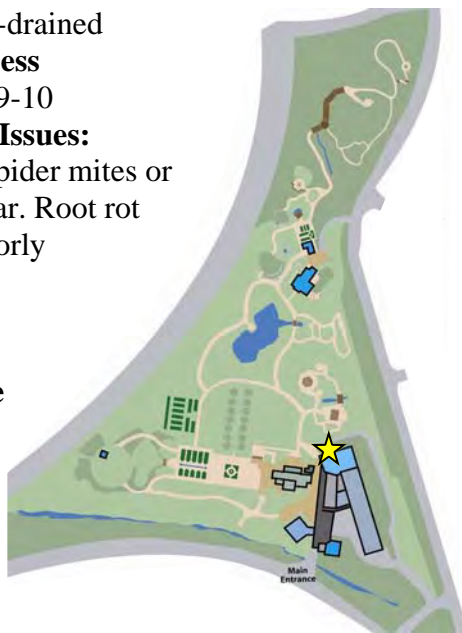
**Insect/Disease Issues:**

None serious, spider mites or scale may appear. Root rot can occur in poorly drained soils

**Nativity:**

Norfolk Island

**Location in the  
Gardens:**  
Conservatory



## Landscape Value:

Seen in most stores around the holidays as a Christmas tree alternative, this houseplant will grown 2’ to 10’ tall indoors, but in its native habitat will reach 100’+! Plants do well if moved outdoors in the warmer months, but do not put in direct sunlight. Additionally, plants do not do well in prolonged periods of very warm weather. Grow in a well-drained soil and keep well watered but not wet. Plants that are too wet or too dry will drop branches (not needles) and those branches do not regrow leaving the trunk bare. Fertilize with a half or quarter strength fertilizer in spring and summer, preferable one that acidifies the soil, such as those formulated for rhododendrons. Plants are spider mite magnets if in dry or otherwise stressful conditions.

## Notes:

This species of tree is closely related to South American native monkey puzzle tree (*Araucaria araucana*) which is hardy to Zone 7. The name comes from the thick, sharp spines that cover the branches making it a puzzle for a monkey to climb.

## Months of Interest:

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
May	Jun	Jul	Aug
Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec