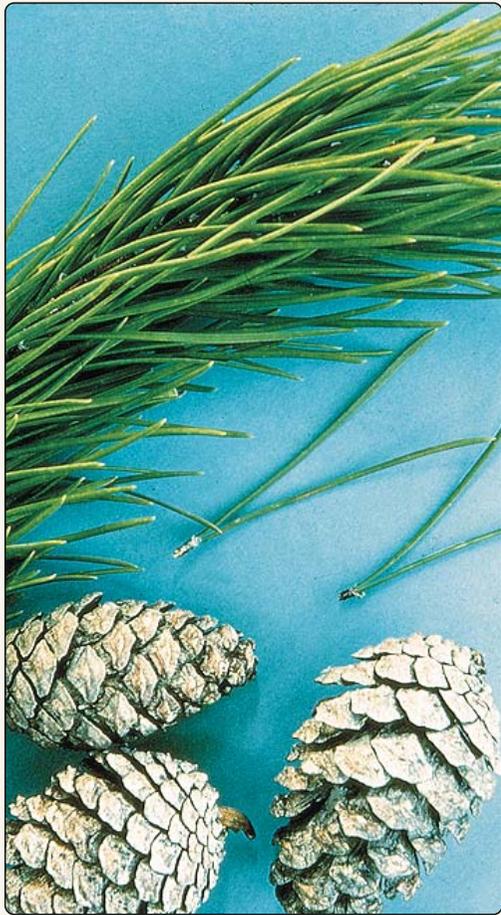


Lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*)



Needles in pairs, egg-shaped cones

Lodgepole pine is an evergreen coniferous tree that can grow to a height of 6 - 24 m depending on the variety. It has invaded natural grassland at medium to high altitudes, especially in Tongariro National Park and in parts of the South Island.

The tree has reddish-brown bark, grey on the outside. There are two yellow-green to dark green needles together in a bundle, usually twisted. Cones are 3 - 6 cm long, 2 - 3.5 cm across, egg-shaped, tending to point backwards on the branch.

The seed is readily carried by the wind, and plants can grow far away from existing plantations. Small plants can be pulled or dug out. Felled trees sometimes re-grow from the stump. Treating the freshly cut stump with herbicide prevents re-growth. Another control method is to drill holes into the trunk, or cut a frill round the trunk and inject herbicide into the wounds.

Contact your Regional Council for advice on control methods.