



Rhizospora Needle Cast Disease

Colorado Blue Spruce (*Picea pungens*) is highly susceptible to rhizospora needle cast disease. This is a fungal disease of evergreen trees that causes needles to turn brown and fall off. Stressed trees or ones which have been improperly planted or located are more prone to this disease. Norway Spruce (*Picea abies*) and White Spruce (*Picea glauca*) are more resistant to the disease, but still need proper placement and planting techniques. Plant spruce trees in acidic, moist but well-draining soils and in full sun with good airflow. Do not allow irrigation systems to spray needles. Prune and remove branches to allow good airflow around and throughout the tree. Measures like these are great for preventing the disease, but it does exist in our environment. Using properly timed fungicide applications can prevent your tree from becoming infected. Always make sure you follow the pesticide label and only use pesticides labeled for the pest or disease you're treating. (Fung-onil™ is labeled for Rhizospora Needlecast disease)

