

New Caledonian Pine

Common name: New Caledonian Pine, Cook's Pine, and incorrectly called Christmas Tree,

Botanical name: *Araucaria columnaris*

Family: Araucariaceae; **Name in Tamil:** ?



Field identification:

Ornamental tree, narrow conical shape, spire like crown, up to 60 m. Evergreen. Trunk long, clear with bark grey, resinous, peels off. Relatively short horizontal branches in whorls around slender, upright to slightly leaning trunk. Branches lined with cord-like, horizontal branchlets, which are covered with small, green, incurved, point-tipped, spirally arranged overlapping leaves. Young leaves needle like, while adult leaves triangular and scale like. Female cone egg shaped, smaller and numerous fox-tail shaped male cones

Location on campus:

Few trees. E.g. Mary Varghese Campus, Stem Cell Centre, Scudder Auditorium, Off Ring Road

Rereferences:

1. Krishen P. (2006) Trees of Delhi: A field guide. Dorling Kindersley, New Delhi. p166, 328
2. Wikipedia. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Araucaria_columnaris
3. Flowers of India. Available at www.flowersofindia.net