

# *Casuarina* spp.

## AUSTRALIAN PINE

### Casuarinaceae

Common Synonyms: *none*

**FLEPPC Category:** -

**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** Yes

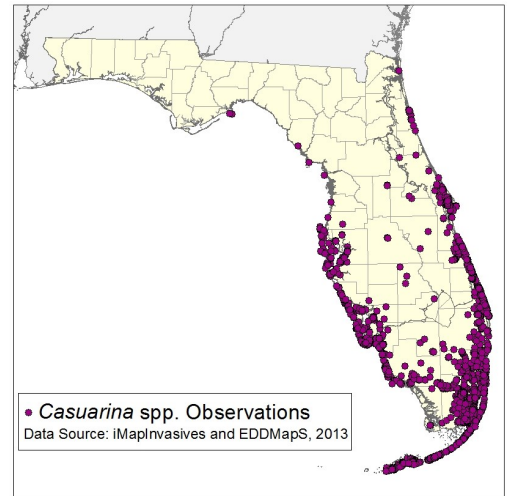
**IFAS Assessment**

North	PROHIBITED
Central	PROHIBITED
South	PROHIBITED

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 10 - 11

**Growth Habit:** Tree

**Origin:** Australia



FNAI

**Description:** Evergreen tree to 46 m tall either suckering (*C. glauca*) or not suckering (*C. equisetifolia* and *C. cunninghamiana*). Bark initially smooth but developing scaly strips with maturity. Branchlets pine-needle-like, green or grayish-green, jointed to 20 cm long. Leaves reduced to tiny scales at branchlet joints (6-8 in *C. equisetifolia*, 10-17 in *C. glauca*, and 8-10 in *C. cunninghamiana*). Flowers unisexual (male and female on different plants). Woody cone-like fruiting heads composed of many 1-seeded winged nutlets small, brown to 2 cm.

*C. equisetifolia* is a single-trunked species, seeds dispersed by wind and birds; *C. glauca* spreads by suckering at the base, rarely sets seed in Florida; *C. cunninghamiana* is much less common in Florida than the other two species.

**Habitat:** Coastal uplands, pine rocklands, disturbed sites

**Comments:** *Casuarina* isn't often identified to species, but the genus is established in south and central zones.

**Florida Introduction Date:** late 1800's

#### **Control Methods:**

Chemical: Basal bark (10-20% triclopyr ester, IFAS), cut stump (50% triclopyr amine or 10-20% triclopyr ester, IFAS), best success after removal of scaly bark. Frill (only for larger trees; 20% triclopyr ester, IFAS), soil (4-6 lbs hexazinone/acre, IFAS)

#### **Useful Resources:**

Langeland, K.A., H.M. Cherry, C.M. McCormick, K.C. Burks. 2008. Identification and Biology of Non-Native Plants in Florida's Natural Areas-Second Edition. IFAS Publication SP 257. University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida.

Virginia Tech. 2013. vTREE: Australian Pine. <http://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/syllabus/factsheet.cfm?ID=380>. Accessed on December 3, 2013.