

RHIZOSPHAERA NEEDLECAST

TREES AT RISK:

- Colorado Blue Spruce, Occasionally White Spruce

IMPORTANT:

- Inspect throughout the year, can inspect for while out in
- The old growth is most evident in early spring

WHAT TO LOOK FOR:

- **October- November and March-April (late Fall and Early Spring)**
 - There will be a fuzzy row of black fruiting bodies on the underside of the green and yellow needles, in stomata's (openings on leaves).



- **July-August (summer)**
 - Purple-brown needles on the old needles 1-2 years,
 - Disease is most common to start in the lower branches and move upward
 - Needles will fall off late fall to early winter



RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Treat in spring-summer with a fungicide, before bud break and right after buds elongate
- This is only a preventative option so the pathogen does not spread
- Can be controlled in one year if caught

COMMONLY CONFUSED WITH:

- Stigma needlecast
- Sudden needle drop
- Drought
- Pine needle scale
- Spruce spider mite
- Cytospora canker