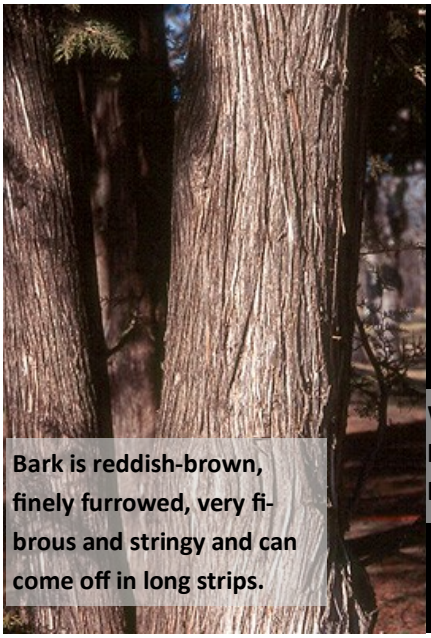
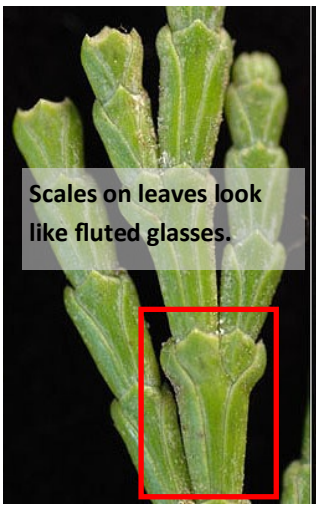
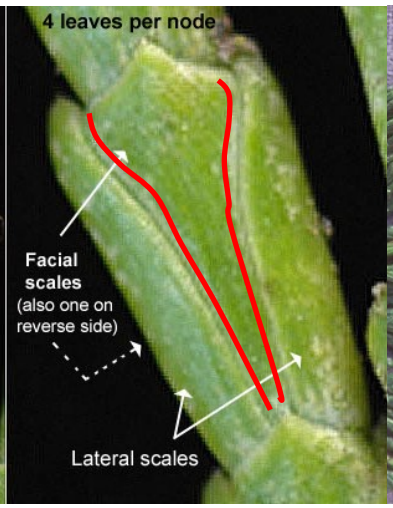
False Cedars

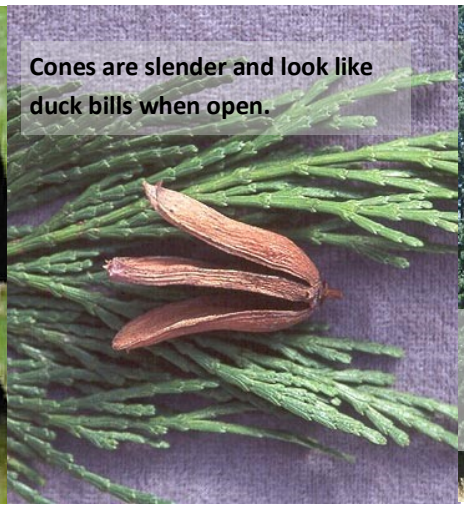
Thuja plicata—Western redcedar



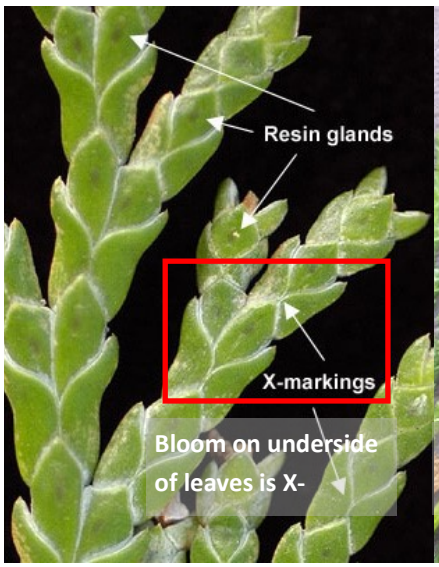
Calocedrus decurrens—Incense cedar

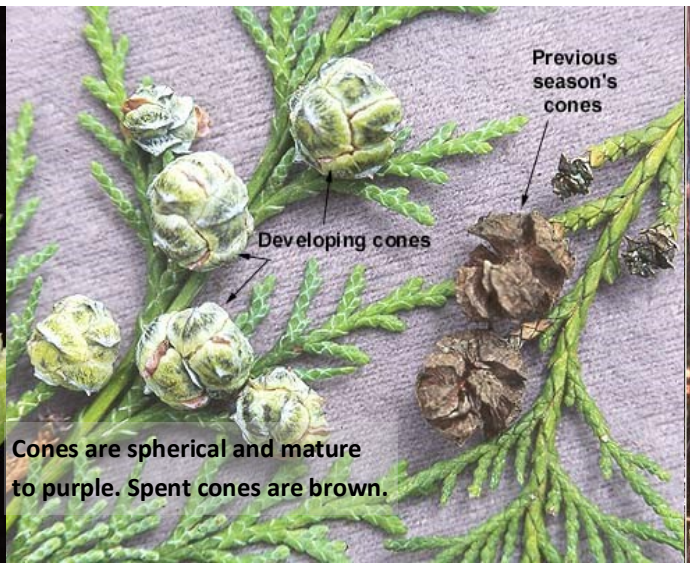


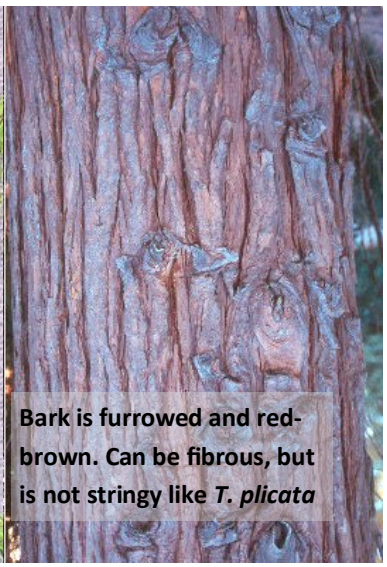




Chamaecyparis lawsonia—Port-orford cedar







Xanthocyparis nootkatensis—Alaska yellow-cedar

Chamaecyparis obtusa—Hinoki falsecypress

Four out of five of these false cedars are native to Oregon. Alaska yellow-cedar is the least common; the other four are commonly found in Portland parks. Trees can be variable and key identification features, like cones, may not be present on every tree. If you are unsure, take a sample! If Urban Forestry staff is stumped, we'll ask the experts at Hoyt Arboretum.