

## 'Shawnee Brave' Bald Cypress

## The Facts

Height: 50 - 75' Spread: 15 - 20' Sun: Full sun Water: Medium to wet Soil: Well-drained Growth Rate: Fast

Taxodium distichum, commonly known as bald cypress, is a longlived, pyramidal conifer. It is native to saturated soils, seasonally flooded areas, swamps and stream banks on the coastal plain.

Although it looks like a needled evergreen, it is in fact deciduous ("bald"

as the common name suggests). Flat, linear needles are yellow-green in spring, medium to dark green in summer and reddish-brown in fall. Needles drop shortly thereafter. Round cones (to 1" across) are green in summer before turning a stunning brown with maturity. Reddishbrown bark exfoliates in strips. Root system "knees" only appear on plants growing in water. 'Mickelson', commonly sold in commerce under the trade name of 'Shawnee Brave', is a narrow pyramidal cultivar that typically grows with a strong central leader to 50-75' tall and only 15-20' wide. It has a narrower shape and denser foliage than other bald cypress.

