

SPIDER MITES—*Oligonychus* spp., *Tetranychus* spp., and *Eotetranychus* spp.

HOSTS: Spruce, pine, honeylocust, elm, linden, and other conifer and hardwood trees and shrubs

IDENTIFICATION, LIFE CYCLE, AND DAMAGE: These tiny arthropods are less than 1 mm long and vary in color from yellow to red to green.

Mites overwinter as eggs on the tree. There are many generations per year. Mites feed on sap and spin a fine silk webbing among needles (leaves).

The damaged needles (leaves) become stippled, bleached, and brown, and may fall off. Severely in-

festated trees are less vigorous and occasionally may be killed.

CONTROL: Spray trees thoroughly with diazinon, cyhexatin, malathion, chlorpyrifos, or tetradifon as soon as mite damage appears during April or May. Repeat every 10 to 14 days as needed.



Spruce spider mite



Spruce spider mite damage