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False Cypress – Hinoki

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False Cypress- Hinoki

Chameacyparis Obtusa

ID # 317

Location: Misto Gatehouse

Height: 36.58 m

DBH: 40.7 cm

Radius of Crown: 20 m

Condition: Good

Age Class: Mature

Dates of Observation: 9/28/2020- 11/21/2020

BIO-140-01

December 11th, 2020



In this semester my class and I in Biology Lab 140 chose one tree to document. The tree that I chose was the False Cypress-Hinoki. This tree was located in front of Misto Gatehouse. Every week I would take pictures of my tree and document changes I had noticed. Throughout the class I was able to see the changes that occurred to my tree.

Observation 1: September 28th, 2020.

My first observation of my tree was that it was not a normal tree, it kind of resembled a pine tree, because it did not have normal leaves, I soon found out that it was not. The tree is a False Cypress-Hinoki, native to Japan (“*Chamaecyparis Obtusa*”). My tree is located in front of Misto Gatehouse on Ochre Point Ave. I quickly noticed that the tree had bright green leaves, and bark that appeared to be brown and red. I took measurements of the tree and realized that it was 30.58 meters tall, and the radius of the crown was about 20 meters.



Observation 2: September 30th, 2020.

When I came back to visit my tree again, I had done some research on it. I had found out more about the tree and where it came from. I had learned that this was an evergreen tree that prefers moist soil, but is very adaptable to all soils. When I had looked at the soil it appeared to be very moist and dense. These trees often grow very large and grow very slowly (“*Chamaecyparis Obtusa*”). Since the pictures were taken close in dates, I did not see any difference with the leaves.



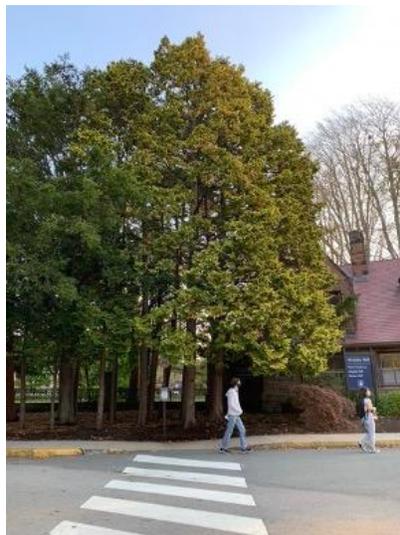
Observation 3: October 14th, 2020.

When I returned back to my tree this was the first time, I had seen a noticeable change in it. I had seen that the leaves had appeared to look darker. The vibrant green had appeared to wash out of it and now some of the leaves were duller and becoming a yellow. This tree worked greatly in Newport since it liked a more humid climate that was very suitable for the tree to survive (“*Hinoki Cypress Tree Plant Profile*”).



Observation 4: October 19th, 2020.

As I went back to the tree yet again, I could see a drastic change in just a few days when more of the yellow was present with some orange as well. You could tell the tree was beginning to change for winter as the False Cypress-Hinoki does, by changing its leaves to a yellow shade that would eventually turn brown. In the summer the tree's foliage was into a dark green color as we witnessed in the first image (“Hinoki Cypress Tree Plant Profile”).



Observation 5: October 23rd, 2020.

The tree had not really changed during this time span, instead more of the leaves had become duller but it was not a very noticeable difference. I now had been able to see the tree branches better and had realized that they were “drooped” they often do this as the tree grows, for shade underneath to cover the soil, to maximize the moisture in the soil. This tree likes full sun, in order to grow, which explains the location of the tree in a more open area, with maximum sun (Gilman and Watson, 1993).



Observation 6: October 28th, 2020.

This image again was taken closer to the previous one, but there were noticeable changes. Where there was previously yellow it had begun to turn to a darker shade almost a brown, in certain areas. More of the green began to dull, making the tree become less vibrant overall. I had also realized that the bark on

the tree was not as red as it was before, it was as if the brown was growing over the red shade preparing for winter.



Observation 7: November 4th, 2020.

A few days later I had realized yet again there were more brown leaves on the tree, and less green, becoming a dull yellow shade. The bark around the bottom yet again had grown more so that less red was exposed. But other than those minor changes the tree had not really fully changed yet, which I was hoping to see a drastic change.



Observation 8: November 21st, 2020.

After waiting a while to take another picture I finally went back and yet again saw very little change. I was very disappointed by this because I was hoping as it got later in the season and colder that there would be a difference. Although all of the vibrant green was gone, now it was dark green, yellow, and some brown. There was only one tiny strand of red exposed in the bark now. Since it was still so nice in this picture the weather had not really gotten cold, yet I was not very surprised by my findings.



As time went on, I got to learn more about the False Cypress-Hinoki, which I found very interesting. I found documenting the tree every week or so to be very cool, and something I would look

forward to. Although my tree had no drastic changes week to week, the first image now is drastic. At the beginning it was so bright and green but now it had appeared very dull green, yellow, and brown. I wish that I had gotten to spend more time on campus this winter to further document my tree and its foliage process, but I did not.

Works Cited

Chamaecyparis obtusa (Dwarf Hinoki Falsecypress, Hinoki Cypress, Hinoki Falsecypress) |

North Carolina Extension Gardener Plant Toolbox. (n.d.). Plants. Retrieved December 11, 2020, from <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/chamaecyparis-obtusa/>

Gilman, E., & Watson, D. (1993, November). *Chamaecyparis obtusa* Hinoki Falsecypress. Hort. https://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/database/documents/pdf/tree_fact_sheets/chaobta

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