

# Alnus glutinosa

**Alternate Names:** Alnus alnus (L.) Britt.; Alnus glutinosa (L.); Alnus glutinosa (L.) Gaertn.; Betula alnus var. glutinosa

**Common Name/s:** Alder, Aune glutineux, Black Alder, Common Alder, English Alder, European Alder, European Black Alder, Irish Fearnog, Sticky Alder.

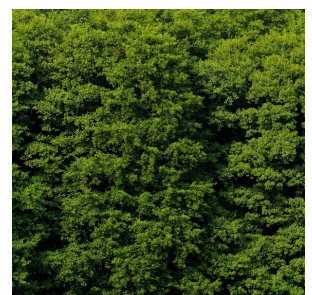
**Family:** Betulaceae

**Cultivars/Variants:** Alnus glutinosa var. Aurea, Alnus glutinosa var. Imperialis, Alnus glutinosa var. Laciniata, and Alnus glutinosa var. Pyramidalis.

**Distribution:** Natural range includes north-western Africa, Europe, and western Asia. Naturalised in North America, Australia, New Zealand, India, and the Republic of Korea.

## Description:

- **Appearance:** A thornless multi-stemmed deciduous tree with slightly rough greyish bark, smooth stems, broad green leaves, and a sparse crown. Medium brown winged seeds are contained in wood cones and can float in water for up to two years without loss of viability.
- **Height:** Up to 40m
- **Width:** Up to 25m
- **Growth Habit:** Fast
- **Shade Provision:** Moderate.





### Tolerance:

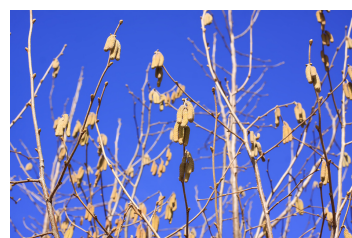
- **Minimum Temperature:** -49°C
- **Rainfall:** 400 - 1300mm
- **Soil:** Loam – Clay, including heavy clay and poor soils; prefers moist to wet soils.
- **pH Range:** 4.2 - 7.5
- **Climate:** Temperate to Boreal
- **Salinity:** Moderate; waterlogged saline soils stunt growth.
- **Fire:** Low
- **Frost:** Very High
- **Drought:** Low
- **Coppicing:** Yes
- **Waterlogging:** Very High
- **Herbicide:** Does not tolerate napropamide, glyphosate, triclopyr, or dicamba. Moderate tolerance to pendimethalin – stunted growth at higher levels.

### Uses:

- **Fertiliser:** 56-130 kg/ha per year nitrogen fixation rate.
- **Fodder:** Yes – ruminant animals and bees.
- **Food:** No.
- **Fibre:** Yes – for paper production.
- **Fuel:** Used for charcoal and as a biomass feedstock.
- **Other Uses:** Mine site revegetation, power station landfill (fly ash technosol) remediation, carbon farming, nurse trees, windbreaks, riverbank stabilisation, wetland revegetation, and as a fast rotation crop for wood products/production. Can also be used to produce various dye colours. Supports biodiversity through the provision of habitat and food.

**Pests and Diseases:** *Phytophthora alni*, *Inonotus radiatus*, *Armillaria* sp., *Dasineura tortilis*, *Aceria nalepai*, *Agelastica alni*, *Melasoma aenea*, *Cryptorrhynchus lapathii*, and *Eriophyes laevis*.

**Warnings:** As a pioneer species, it easily becomes invasive in wetlands and riparian zones; declared environmental weed in several areas. Check if it is banned in your area prior to planting.



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