



## Alnus incana



|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>Height</b>                | 12 - 18 (20) m, fast growing  |
| <b>Crown</b>                 | ovate, half-open crown  |
| <b>Bark and branches</b>     | grey and smooth, twigs grey brown   |
| <b>Leaf</b>                  | wide ovate, green, 5 - 10 cm  |
| <b>Flowers</b>               | catkins, and , purplish, February/March                                       |
| <b>Fruits</b>                | ovoid strobiles, grey brown, 1 - 1.5 cm                                       |
| <b>Spines/thorns</b>         | None  |
| <b>Toxicity</b>              | usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock                       |
| <b>Soil type</b>             | calcicole, tolerates dry soils  |
| <b>Soil moisture</b>         | suitable for dry soil, withstand short flood, withstand long flood            |
| <b>Paving</b>                | tolerates no paving   |
| <b>Winter hardiness zone</b> | 3 (-40,0 to -24,5 °C)   |
| <b>Wind resistance</b>       | good, susceptible to sea wind   |
| <b>Other resistances</b>     | resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind, resistant to de-icing salt |
| <b>Application</b>           | cemeteries, industrial areas, windbreaks                                      |
| <b>Shape</b>                 | clearstem tree, multi-stem treem  |
| <b>Origin</b>                | Europe, West Asia, North America  |

Widely dispersed in Europe into the Caucasus, but not native to Great Britain. Big shrub to multiple-stemmed tree with a compact, irregular crown. The trunk and the young twigs are grey. In contrast with *A. glutinosa*, *A. incana* has no sticky parts. The alternate green leaves are ovate and acute-pointed, they have serrated margins and hairy to velvety undersides. Buds are short stalked. The inflorescence with  $\pm 0.5$  cm female catkins and  $\pm 7$  cm purplish male catkins with yellow pollen, is inconspicuous. The grey brown strobiles appear in September and decorate the tree all winter. *A. incana* roots fairly deep, but shallower than *A. glutinosa* and is used in forestry as a producer of nitrogen. Intolerant to hard surfaces.