

Plants of South Eastern New South Wales



Male and female catkins. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Canberra



Leaves and young female catkins. Australian Plant Image Index, photographer Murray Fagg, Canberra



Line drawing. USDA NRCS PLANTS database. Britton, N.L., and A. Brown. 1913. *An illustrated flora of the northern United States, Canada and the British Possessions*. Vol. 1: 613

Common name

Black Alder, Common Alder, European Alder

Family

Betulaceae

Where found

Wet **forest**, along streams, near lakes, and damp ground. Tolerant of water logged conditions. Canberra, Katoomba, and Kosciuszko National Park.

Notes

Introduced deciduous tree to 20 m high. Bark grey to dark brown, smooth in young trees, fissured, becoming deeply furrowed in older trees. Branchlets smooth, new buds sticky and with resinous warts. Leaves **alternating** up the stems, 3-14 cm long, 30-110 mm wide, upper surface glossy dark green, lower surface paler green with rusty-brown hairs in the angles of the **veins**, margins wavy and toothed. Separate male and female flowers on the same plant. Flowers in **catkins**, in clusters of 2-5. Male catkins 25-160 mm long, reddish to reddish brown. Female catkins about 35 mm long, red to reddish-brown, becoming dark brown to black and somewhat woody and **cone**-like in seed, 12-25 mm long. Individual flowers small, male flowers with 4 '**petals**', female flowers with 0 '**petals**'. Flowers autumn to winter.

Pest plant ACT.

PlantNET description: <http://plantnet.rbgsyd.nsw.gov.au/cgi-bin/NSWfl.pl?page=nswfl&lvl=sp&name=Alnus~glutinosa> (accessed 4 May 2021)

Detailed description in Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alnus_glutinosa (accessed 4 May 2021)

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