

Alnus Nepalensis

Botanical Name: *Alnus nepalensis*

Common Name: Alder, Pilak

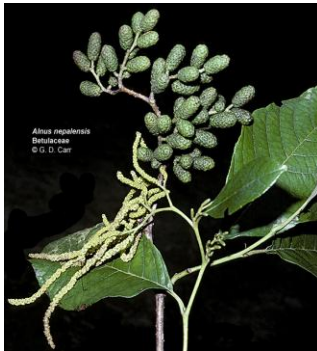
Morphological Characters:

Alnus nepalensis is a deciduous or semi-deciduous tree with a straight trunk, up to 30 m in height and 60 cm (rarely to 2 m) in diameter; twigs ribbed, glabrescent; bark dark grey, often with yellowish patches and slightly raised lenticels. Leaves are alternate, elliptical, ovate to oblong, 6-21 cm long, 4-10 cm wide, entire, denticulate or sinuate, shallowly crenate to subentire, rounded or cuneate at the base, with 12-16 pairs of lateral veins, top surface dull or shiny dark green, under surface pale with dotlike, yellow-brown scales; petiole strong, 1.5-2 cm long. Narrowly cylindrical clusters of tiny flowers or catkins occur in autumn as males or females, separate on the same or different twigs.



Growing Season and Type:

1. The catkins are produced in September and October .
2. The new cones appear between December and March.
3. It grows well in full light but also tolerates shade.
4. It is found in forests in ravines, on stream banks and occasionally in drier localities. It is also planted to prevent landslides.



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1) Flower image of *Alnus nepalensis*: This photo shows male inflorescences on the lower left, developing fruit above, and small female inflorescences in the lower center.

2) Leaf image of *Alnus nepalensis*.

3) Tree image of *Alnus nepalensis*

source: http://www.worldagroforestry.org/treedb/AFTPDFS/Alnus_nepalensis.PDF