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ALDER

Alnus

 1986

The alder thrives in damp, cool areas, in moist soil near marshes, wet woodland streams, ponds and rivers. It can withstand being submerged and is the only wood that does not rot under water.

The timber is used for sluice gates and bridge and construction piles. Did you know most of Venice is built on alder piles! Alder wood is reddish brown and is used to make toys, models and kitchen utensils. In spring the pendulous male catkins appear before the leaves. The green, oval female catkins, once pollinated, become woody and remain on the branches all year. Alder buds are a good treatment for rheumatism.

The famous German poet Goethe wrote a poem about the '*Alder King*'. In it a father gallops through the woods at night cradling his sick child in his arms. The child begs his father to save him from the wicked Alder King.

Alas, in vain.

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Ook in andere talen



Also in other languages



Ankaŭ en aliaj lingvoj

