



Alnus japonica



Height	10 – 15(20) m
Width	8-12m
Crown	broad conical, half-open crown
Bark and branches	branches gray to reddish brown: bark grey, grooved, later peeling off in irregular plates
Leaf	ovate to broad lanceolate, 6-12 cm long, glossy dark green
Flowers	catkins, light green-yellow, purplish red, February-March
Fruits	broad ovoid strobiles, 1,5-2cm
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	usually not toxic to people, (large) pets and livestock
Soil type	clayed soil, loamy soil, sandy soil
Soil moisture	suitable for wet soil, withstand short flood, withstand long flood
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	4 (-34,4 to -28,9 °C)
Wind resistance	good
Other resistances	resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind, resistant to de-icing salt
Application	industrial areas
Shape	clearstem tree

Alnus japonica is usually a small to medium-sized tree, but can grow into a large tree of 20 m or even higher under favourable conditions. The crown is initially relatively narrowly upright, but later widens to form a conical crown. The leaves are a glossy dark green, sometimes the young shoots are bronze coloured. The leaf margins are shallowly serrated. The male and female catkins mature in late winter. They are followed by the characteristic alder cones. These are green at first but turn dark brown as they ripen. Naturally, *A. japonica* often grows along stream and river banks or in swamps. The tree grows in any soil type, but the soil should be sufficiently moist or even wet. Despite being introduced to the Netherlands as early as 1866, it has never been a common species. Nevertheless, the fact that this elegant little tree is suitable for use on moist to wet soils offers plenty of opportunities for planting along banks and in wadis.