

Black alder look alike

Black alder (*Alnus glutinosa*) may be confused with green alder (*Alnus viridis*) and speckled alder (*Alnus incana*).



Black alder leaves with cone-like female catkins



Green alder leaves



Speckled alder leaves

Species	Height + Form	Leaves
Black alder (<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>)	Up to 50' tall single or multi-stemmed tree	Nearly oval; edges coarsely-toothed and often irregularly double toothed; coated with resin at top and bottom; mature leaves with notched tip
Green alder (<i>Alnus viridis</i>)	Up to 15' tall multi-stemmed shrub	Egg-shaped to elliptic; pointed to rounded at tip ; base rounded to somewhat heart-shaped; 2-3 ½" long, 1-2 ½" wide; edges finely toothed and not double-toothed
Speckled alder (<i>Alnus incana</i>)	10 – 25' tall multi-stemmed shrub	Egg-shaped to elliptic; pointed or blunt at tip ; base rounded to wedge-shaped; 1 ½ - 4 ½" long, 1-3" wide; edges coarsely double toothed ; upper surface dark green, mostly hairless; lower surface dull green, hairy