



Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*

Rowan or mountain ash is a highly attractive, small tree. It is widely planted in gardens and parks. Rowan produces clusters of beautiful creamy-white flowers in spring and orange-red berries in late summer. The leaves turn various shades of yellow, orange and bright red in autumn. It generally prefers well-drained, acid to neutral soils, but is a hardy tree and can tolerate a wide range of conditions including uplands and rocky ground. Birds love Rowan berries, especially Mistle Thrushes and Blackbirds. Rowan jelly, made from the berries, was traditionally eaten with game. Rowan has also been traditionally used for good luck, good health and to ward off evil spirits!

Rowan leaves and flowers / Duilli agus bláthanna an Chaorthainn



Scots Pine *Pinus sylvestris*

Scots pine is strictly speaking not a native tree as it is thought to have become extinct in Ireland in medieval times. It is, nevertheless, a large attractive conifer, which was once common in the west. Scots Pine can grow on marginal soils where other trees would not thrive and is tolerant of exposed sites (but not areas with salt-laden winds). It prefers light, sandy soils that are acid to neutral and can grow on marginal land with poor soils. The bark of Scots Pine has an orangey shade giving it a very distinctive look which contrasts well with the dark, green foliage.

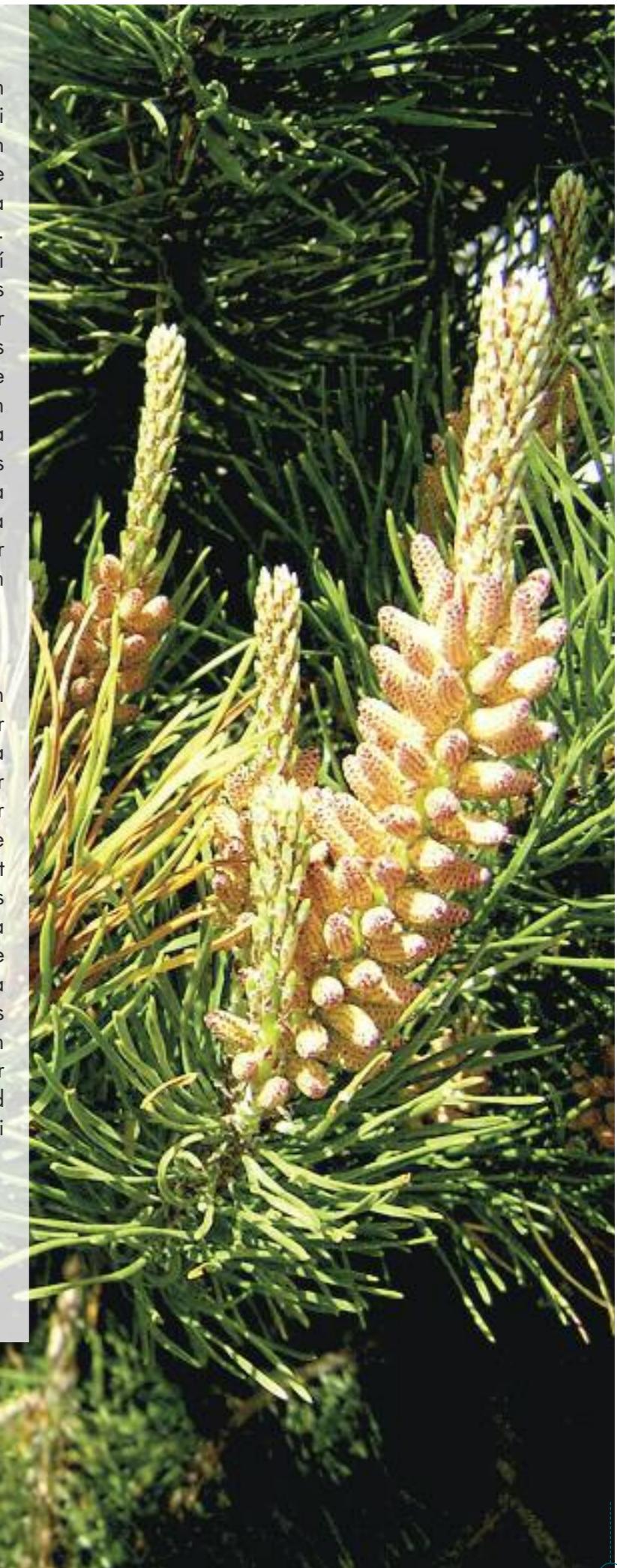
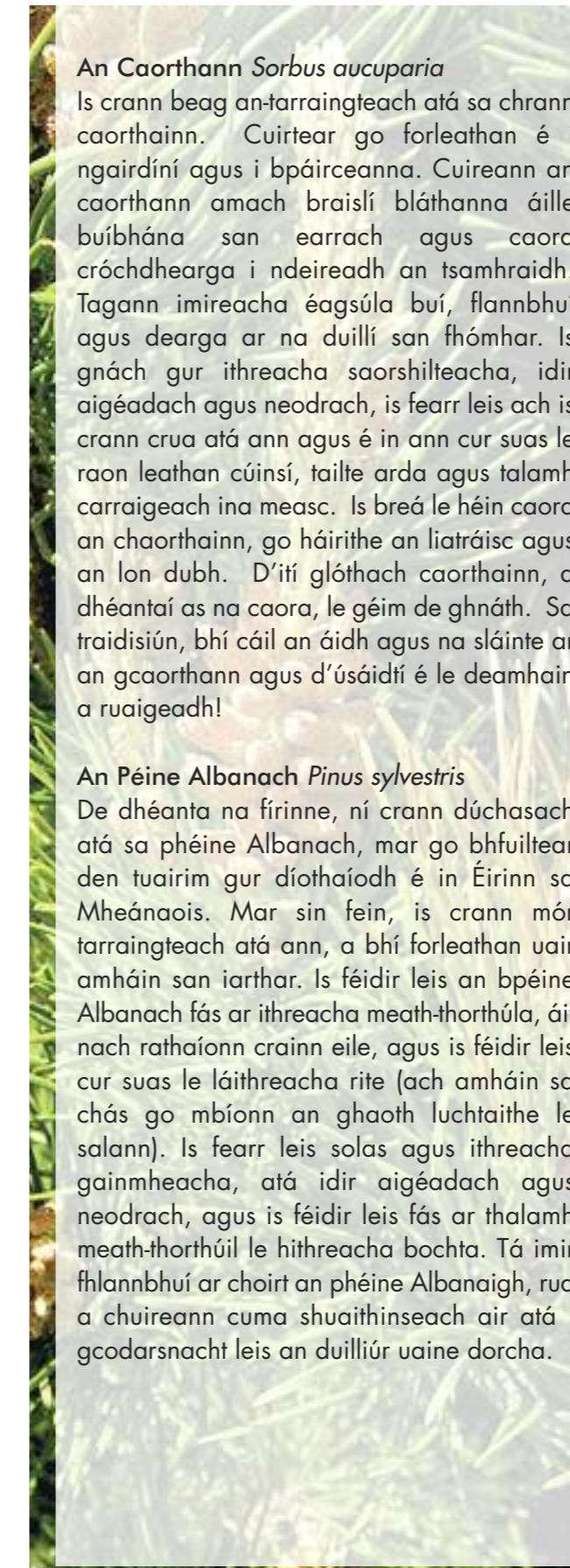
Scots Pine / An Péine Albanach



An Caorthann *Sorbus aucuparia*
Is crann beag an-tarraingteach atá sa chrann caorthainn. Cuirtear go forleathan é i ngairdíní agus i bpáirceanna. Cuireann an caorthann amach braislí bláthanna áille buíbhána san earrach agus caora cróchdhearga i ndeireadh an tsamhraidh. Tagann imireacha éagsúla buí, flannbhú agus dearga ar na duillí san fhómhar. Is gnách gur ithreacha saorshilteacha, idir aigéadach agus neodrach, is fearr leis ach is crann crua atá ann agus é in ann cur suas le raon leathan cúinsí, tailte arda agus talamh carraigeach ina measc. Is breá le héin caora an chaorthainn, go háirithe an liatráisc agus an lon dubh. D'í í glóthach caorthainn, a dhéantaí as na caora, le géim de ghnáth. Sa traidisiún, bhí cáil an áidh agus na sláinte ar an gcaorthann agus d'úsáidtí é le deamhain a ruageadh!

An Péine Albanach *Pinus sylvestris*

De dhéantaí na firinne, ní crann dúchasach atá sa phéine Albanach, mar go bhfuiltear den tuairim gur díotháiodh é in Éirinn sa Mheánaois. Mar sin fein, is crann mór tarraigteach atá ann, a bhí forleathan uair amháin san iarthar. Is féidir leis an bpéine Albanach fás ar ithreacha meath-thorthúla, áit nach rathaíonn crainn eile, agus is féidir leis cur suas le láithreacha rite (ach amháin sa chás go mbíonn an ghaoth luchtaithe le salann). Is fearr leis solas agus ithreacha gainmheacha, atá idir aigéadach agus neodrach, agus is féidir leis fás ar thalamh meath-thorthúil le hithreacha bochta. Tá imir fhlanbhú ar choirt an phéine Albanaigh, rud a chuireann cuma shuaithinseach air atá i gcodarsnacht leis an duilliúr uaine dorcha.





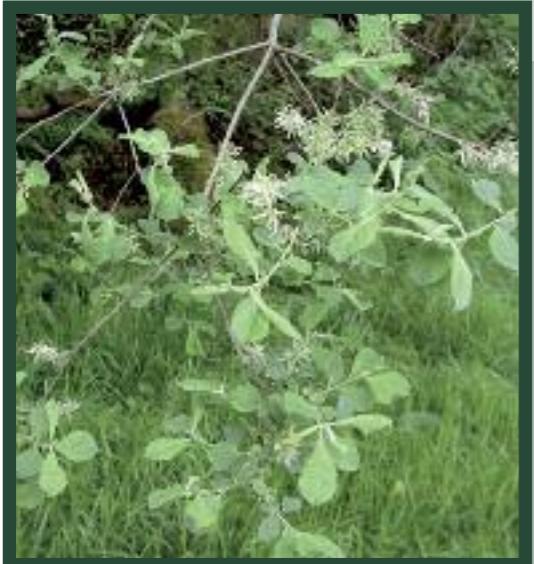
Spindle *Euonymus europaeus*

Spindle is a hedgerow and woodland shrub that is relatively common but is often overlooked as it is inconspicuous for much of the year. In autumn, however, the leaves turn a beautiful orangey-pink and it produces stunning bright pink berries that split to reveal the orange seed inside. Spindle prefers lime-rich soils but tolerates a wide range of soils. Spindle was traditionally used to make spindles for spinning wheels, hence the name.



Whitebeam *Sorbus aria*

There are a few native species of Whitebeam found growing in Ireland although true native Whitebeams are quite rare. They are widely planted, however, in towns and parks, and in road-planting schemes because of their ornamental qualities. Whitebeams have blue-green leaves that are pale green underneath; they produce clusters of bright red berries. Most prefer lime-rich soils but will grow in a wide range of conditions. They tolerate coastal exposure, rocky ground, some shade and damp sites. The most widespread native Whitebeam is *Sorbus aria*, which occurs in Galway often on limestone pavement. Like Rowan, Whitebeams produce clusters of bright red or orange berries in autumn, which are highly prized by birds.



Willow/Sally *Salix*

There are several native Willows in Ireland and they all grow in damp soils often along river and lake edges. The most widespread Willow species in Ireland are the Goat Willow, the Rusty or Grey willow (both known as Sallies) and the Eared-willow. Willow flowers provide an important source of pollen and nectar for insects as they appear in early spring. Although the flowers are borne in catkins (clusters of tiny flowers with no petals, composed of either male or female flowers), they are pollinated by insects. Most Willows are easy to grow from cuttings and are fast-growing. Willows are widely used for basket making due to their flexible stems (mainly the species with the long, pointed leaves, the osiers).

An Fheoras *Euonymous europaeus*

Is tom fálta sceach agus coillearnach atá san fheoras atá forleathan go maith ach is minic a ligtear i ndearmad é mar go mbíonn sé neamhshuntasach ar feadh chuid mhaith den bhliain. San fhómhar, áfach, tagann dath álann idir bhándearg agus flannbhúi air, agus tagann caora bándearga geala fíoráille air a scoilteann agus a noctann an síol flannbhúi istigh. Is fearr leis an bhfeoras ithreacha ar mórán aoil ach cuireann sé suas le raon leathan ithreacha. D'úsáidí an fheoras go traidisiúnta chun fearsaidí a dhéanamh le haghaidh turní.

An Fionncholl *Sorbus aria*

Faightear roinnt bheag speiceas dúchasach den fhionncholl ag fás in Éirinn, cé gur fánach go maith atá an fionncholl dúchasach ceart. Cuirtear go forleathan iad, áfach, i mbalite agus i bpárceanna agus i scéimeanna ina gcuirtear crainn ar thaobh bóithre mar gheall ar a dtréithe ornáideacha. Tá duillí gormuaine, atá uaine éadrom fúthu, ar an bhfionncholl; táirgeann siad braislí caor dearg glé. Is fearr leis an gcuindis mó díobh ithreacha ar mórán aoil ach fásfaidh siad faoi raon leathan cúinsí. Tá siad in ann cur suas le noctadh ar an gcósta, le talamh carraigeach, le roinnt scáthá agus le láithreacha taise. Is é *Sorbus aria*, a fhásann go minic ar leaca aolchoiche i nGairimh, an fionncholl dúchasach is forleithne. Ach an oiread leis an gcaorthann, táirgeann an fionncholl braislí caor dearg agus flannbhúi san fhómhar, a bhfuil an-tóir ag éin orthu.

An tSaileach *Salix*

Tá roinnt saileach dúchasach in Éirinn agus fásann siad go léir in ithreacha taise, go minic ar bhruacha aibhneacha agus lochanna. Is iad na speicis sailí is forleithne in Éirinn an tsailcheannach, an tsaileach liath nó an tsaileach rua, agus an crann sníofa. Is foinse thábhachtach pailne agus neachtair do na feithidí iad bláthanna na sailí, mar go dtagann siad amach go luath san earrach. Cé go n-iompraítear na bláthanna i gcaitíni (braislí bláthanna bídeacha gan aon pheiteal, iad fireannach nó baineannach), pailníonn feithidí iad. Tá sé furasta an chuid is mó de na saileacha a fhás ó ghearrthóga agus fásann siad go tapa. Usáidtear saileacha i gcaoladóireacht, mar gheall ar a ngais sholúbtha (go háirithe an speiceas leis na duillí fada bioracha, na saileánaigh).





Yew with berries / An tlúr le caora

Yew Taxus baccata

Yew is one of our very few native conifers or evergreens. Not often seen in the wild, it is most commonly seen growing in old church yards where the variety of the Irish Yew, known as *Taxus baccata* 'fastigata', is widely planted due to its upright growth form. There are a few old Yew woodlands remaining in Ireland including a small stand in Garryland (near Coole Park).

Some Yew trees in Ireland are estimated to be over 1000 years old and in Britain there are specimens over 5000 years old! In the wild, yew generally grows in woodland on limestone pavement but Yew woodland is a very rare habitat in Ireland these days and considered of special conservation significance. Yew prefers well-drained lime-rich soils and can tolerate deep shade. The leaves of Yew are poisonous to most livestock and the seeds are also toxic so Yew should not be planted where children and animals may be at risk. It is, however, good for wildlife as birds can eat the fruit and birds roost and nest in the trees. Yew forms a dense, solid hedge and is ideal for topiary although it is slow-growing. Yew wood is highly prized by woodworkers due to its excellent timber.

Coillte Woodland Restoration LIFE Projects

Coillte have conducted two major woodland restoration projects in Galway with the assistance of European Union LIFE funding. Both projects involve the planting of Yew in areas where it would formerly have been abundant. The project sites are in Clonbur Wood near Cong and Castletaylor near Ardrahan, and both are accessible to the public. These exciting projects will result in the expansion of a rare woodland type in Ireland, Yew woodland. Fossil pollen records indicate that Yew woodland was once much more common in Ireland, particularly in the west.

www.coillte.ie/LIFE/woodlandrestoration/

An tlúr *Taxus baccata*

Tá an t-iúr ar cheann dár mbeagán crann buaircínéach no crann síorghlas dúchasach. Ní minic a fheictear ag fás san fhiántas é, ach i seanchealla is coitianta a fheictear é, áit a gcuirtear go forleathan an cineál iúir Éireannaigh a dtugtar *Taxus baccata* 'fastigata' air, de bharr cuma ingearach a bheith air. Tá roinnt seanchoillearach iúir fós in Éirinn, ina measc clampa beag i nGairealán (gar do Pháirc na Cúile).

Meastar roinnt crann iúir in Éirinn a bheith os cionn 1000 bliain d'aois agus i Sasana tá eiseamail atá os cionn 5000 bliain d'aois! San fhásach, is gnách go bhfásann an t-iúr ar leaca aolchloiche i gcoillearrach, ach is gnáthóig an-tearc in Éirinn an choillearrach iúir na laethanta seo agus meastar suntas caomhantais speisialta a bheith ag baint leis. Is fearr leis an iúr ithreacha atá draenáilte go maith agus ar móran aoil agus is féidir leis cur suas le scáth dorcha. Tá duillí an iúir nimhiúil d'fhormhór an bheastoic agus tá na síolta nimhiúil freisin, mar sin níor cheart an t-iúr a chur in áit a mbeidh baol ann do pháistí agus d'ainmhithe. Tá tairbhe ann, áfach, don fhiadhúlra mar gur féidir le héin an toradh aithe agus go dtéann siad ar fara agus ag neadú sna crainn. Déanann an t-iúr fál dlúth, tiubh agus tá sé an-oiriúnach don tordhearradh, cé go bhfásann sé go mall. Tá an-tóir ag saoir adhmaid ar an iúir mar gheall ar fheabhas a adhmaid.

Tionscadail LIFE um Athbhunaithe Coillearrach de chuid Coillte

Tá dhá mhórthionscadal athbhunaithe coillearnaí curtha ar bun ag Coillte i nGaillimh le cúnamh ó chistiúchán LIFE an Aontais Eorpach. Tá cur an iúir, i limistéir ina mbíodh sé fairsing san am atá caite, i gceist leis an dá thionscadal. Is i gCoillte na Fairche, gar do Chonga agus i gCaisleán an Táilliúraigh, gar d'Ard Raithin atá an dá shuíomh, agus is féidir leis an bpobal teacht orthu araon. Is é an toradh a bheidh ar na tionscadail iontacha sin go mbeidh leathnú ar chineál coillearnaí atá tearc in Éirinn, an choillearrach iúir. Léiríonn taifid na pailíne iontaise go raibh coillearrach an iúir i bhfad níos coitianta in Éirinn tráth, go háirithe san iarthar.

www.coillte.ie/LIFE/woodlandrestoration/





Beech / Feá

Common exotic trees

Many non-native trees were planted in Galway, especially around the big houses as part of designed landscapes and in demesnes, and have become well-established in and beautiful additions to our gardens, parks, and landscapes. Beech, Horse Chestnut, Lime, Holm Oak, Field Maple, Copper Beech, Hornbeam, lots of different types of conifers, and many more have been planted over the years. In most cases exotic trees co-exist well with our native flora. Some like Beech and Sycamore can be problematic when they spread in native woodlands although both have their uses. Beech woodlands can be wonderful places to walk in when they have a carpet of bluebells on the woodland floor and Sycamore is a great tree to plant in exposed areas or where you need a timber crop in a hurry.



Sycamore / Seiceamar

Some introduced trees and shrubs, however, can pose a significant threat to woodlands when they become 'invasive' i.e. push out native trees and shrubs. Invasive species such as Rhododendron and Cherry Laurel are a big problem in Irish woods.

Focus on Rhododendron

Invasive species, such as Rhododendron, are introduced plants that spread rapidly because the conditions here are ideal, and their native pests and diseases are not present. They push out native plant species by preventing their regeneration. Rhododendron grows in such dense thickets nothing can grow or regenerate under the dense shade and heavy leaf litter it produces. Such invasive species pose a significant threat to Irish biodiversity, especially in context of climate change. Many woodlands in the west of Ireland are infested with Rhododendron. It is extremely difficult to eradicate because it resprouts easily when cut and it produces millions of tiny seeds which spread far and wide easily.

See www.invasivespeciesireland.ie for more information.



Rhododendron in flower / An Róslabhrs faoi bhláth

Crainn andúchasacha choitianta

Cuireadh go leor crann neamhdhúchasach i nGaillimh, go háirithe timpeall ar na tithe móra mar chuid de thírdhreacha deartha agus i ndiméinte, agus tá siad bunaithe go maith inár ngairdíni, ár bpáircéanna agus ár dtírdhreacha, mar a gcuireann siad go mór leo. Cuireadh an fheá, an cnó capaill, an teile, an dair thoilm, an mhailp, an fheá rua, an crann sleamhain, go leor cineálacha crann buaircínéach agus go leor eile thar na blianta. I bhformhór na gcásanna cómhaireann crainn andúchasacha go maith lenár bhflóra dúchasach. Bíonn fadhb ag baint le cuid diobh, amhail an fheá agus an seiceamar, nuair a leathann siad i gcoillearnacha dúchasacha, cé go bhfuil úsáid le baint astu beirt. Is álann an limistéar an choillearnach feá chun siúlóide nuair a bhíonn brat coinnle corra ar urlár na coillearnaí, agus is crann breá an seiceamar le cur i gceantair rite nó in áit a dteastaíonn barr adhmaid uait go luath.

Ach is baol suntasach do choillearnacha cuid de na crainn agus na toim a tugadh isteach sa tír, áfach, nuair a bhíonn siad ionrach, is é sin go mbrúnn siad crainn agus toim dhúchasacha faoi chois. Is fadhb mhór i gcoillte na hÉireann na speicis ionracha mar an róslabhrs agus an labhrs silíní.

Fócas ar an Róslabhrs (Rhododendron)

Is plandaí iad na speicis ionracha a thugtar isteach agus a scaipeann go tapa de bharr na cúinsí anseo a bheith an-fhabhrach, agus gan a gcuid lotnайдí ná a ngalair dhúchasacha a bheith anseo. Ruageann siad na speicis dhúchasacha trína n-athghiniúint a chosc. Fásann an róslabhrs i mothair a bhíonn chomh dlúth sin nach féidir le haon rud eile fás ná athghiniúint faoin scáth dlúth agus an easair dhuillí a dhéanann sé. Is bagairt shuntasach do bhithéagsúlacht na hÉireann atá ina leithéid de speiceas ionrach, go háiriú i gcomhthéacs an athrú aeráide. Tá go leor coillearnach in iarthar na hÉireann brata leis an róslabhrs. Tá sé an-deacair é a scrios mar go ndéanann sé athphéacadh go héasca nuair a ghearrtar é agus go dtáirgeann sé na milliún síol bídeach a scaipeann i gcéin agus i gcóngar go héasca.

Féach www.invasivespeciesireland.ie chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil.





PLANTING TREES

Before you plant

Planting a tree is a relatively easy task. Dig a hole, pop in the tree, fill up the hole again. What could go wrong?! Why do so many newly planted trees fail to thrive?

The most common reasons for trees failing to thrive after planting include:

- Damage to the roots
- Planting the wrong tree in the wrong place
- Failing to keep the weeds down after planting.

These problems can easily be avoided by careful planning, taking care when planting and minding young trees after planting.

Before planting trees, it is worth asking a few questions:

1. What do you hope to achieve? Do you want to make your garden more attractive, to add privacy or shelter, to screen an oil tank or shed, or to create a wildlife - friendly garden? Do you want some fuel for the fire in a few years? Different types of trees will be suitable for these differing aims.
2. What trees will suit my site? What kind of soil do I have? How much space is there? Selecting the right tree and type of planting stock for your purposes (and budget) will ensure successful results.

If the area to be planted is a public green space the function of the planting and the needs of the community should be considered carefully. Trees can provide amenity and wildlife value, screening and shelter in public spaces, as well as helping to make a space more attractive.

Planting trees and built heritage

When planting trees in an area with important built heritage, great care must be taken to ensure that the tree planting scheme is appropriate and doesn't interfere either directly with the archaeological and architectural heritage (e.g. lateral root growth de-stabilising walls or potential wind throw damaging sensitive structures) or indirectly by detracting from the visual amenity. Advice should be sought from the Heritage Officer, Architectural Conservation Officer and the National Monuments Service before any tree planting in areas with any built heritage. Many buildings, structures and monuments are protected in Irish legislation as Protected Structures, Recorded Monuments or National Monuments e.g. old churches and graveyards, ringforts, medieval town walls, historic buildings etc. If in doubt, seek advice! (For more info see www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/forestry/publications/archaeology.pdf)



CUR CRANN

Sula gcuireann tú

Jab sách éasca is ea crann a chur. Déan poll, cuir an crann isteach, lón an poll arís. Ní féidir dul amú leis, an féidir?! Ach cén fáth nach mbíonn rath ar go leor crann nuachurtha?

Is iad seo a leanas na fáthanna is coitianta nach mbíonn rath ar chrainn i ndiaidh a gcuir:

Damáiste do na fréamhacha

An crann mícheart a chur san áit mhícheart.

Gan fiaile a għlanadh i ndiaidh crann a chur.

Is éasca na fadhbanna seo a sheachaint trí phleanál chúramach a dhéanamh roimh ré, trína bheith airdeallach le linn crainn a bheith á gcur agus trí aire a thabhairt do chrainn óga i ndiaidh a gcuir.

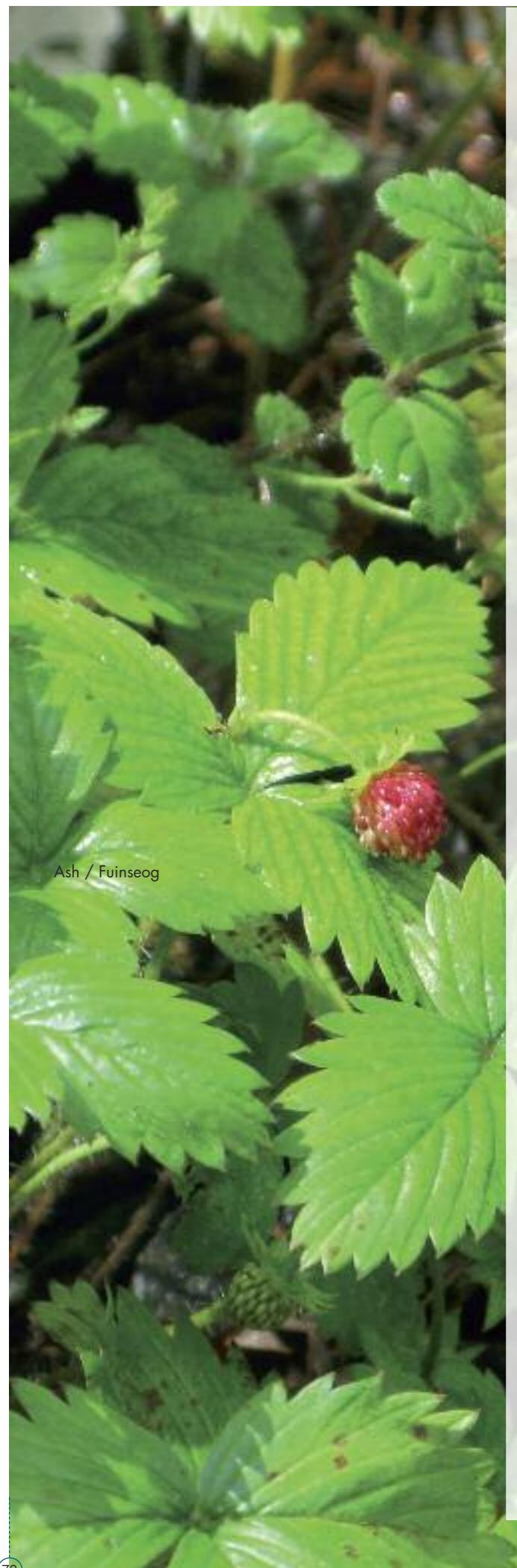
Moltar duit cúpla ceist a chur ort féin sula dtabharfaidh tú faoi chrainn a chur:

1. Cén sprioc atá agat? Ar mhaith leat caoi níos tarraigtí a chur ar do ghairdín, príobháid nó foscadh a chur leis, seid nó dabhach stórála ola a fholú, nó gairdín a thacóidh le fiadhúlra a dhéanamh? B'fheidir gur mhian leat stór breosla tine faoi cheann cúpla bliain? Bheadh cineálacha éagsúla crann feiliúnach do na cuspóirí difriúla seo.
2. Céard iad na cineálacha crann is oiriúnaí do mo shuíomh féin? Cén sórt ithreach atá agam? An bhfuil mórán spás ann? Má roghnaíonn tú an crann ceart agus an cineál stoic is fearr le cur le haghaidh do chuspóirí (agus do bhuiséid), beidh rath ar an obair.

Má tá crainn le cur i spás glas poiblí, ní mór feidhm an chuir agus riachtanais an phobail a mheas go cúramach. Is ábhar luachmhar iad crainn don taitneamhacht agus don fhiadhúlra, tugann siad sciath agus foscadh do spásanna poiblí, agus cabhraíonn siad le spás a dhéanamh níos tarraigtí.

Crainn a chur agus an oidhreacht thíoga

Nuair atáthar i mbun crainn a chur in áit lena mbaineann tábhacht don oidhreacht thíoga, ní mór a bheith an-chúramach lena chinntíú go mbeartaítear scéim chuí curtha crann agus nach gcuirtear isteach go díreach ar an oidhreacht seandálaíochta agus ailtireachta (e.g. balláí a dhíchobhsú le fás na bhfréamhacha cliathánacha nó damáiste a dhéanamh do struchtúir íogaire mar thoradh ar ghaothstoitheadh) nó go hindíreach trí dhochar a dhéanamh don taitneamhacht amhairc. Ba cheart comhairle a fháil ón Oifigeach Oidhreachta, ón Oifigeach Caomhantais Ailtireachta agus ón tSeirbhís Séadchomharthaí Náisiúnta sula gcuirtear crainn i gceantair lena mbaineann oidhreacht thíoga. Cosnaítear go leor foirgneamh, struchtúr agus séadchomharthaí faoi reachtaíocht na hÉireann mar Struchtúir atá faoi Chosaint, Séadchomharthaí Taifeadta nó Séadchomharthaí Náisiúnta m.sh. seaneaglaisí agus seanreilígí, liosanna, balláí baile meánaoiseacha, foirgnimh stairiúla etc. Má bhíonn aon amhras ort, lorg comhairle! (Chun tuilleadh eolais a fháil, féach www.agriculture.gov.ie/media/migration/forestry/publications/archaeology.pdf)



Ash / Fuinseog

It is also important to consider whether new trees will overshadow your house or your neighbours, whether hard landscape features such as walls or paths will be damaged by expanding roots, or whether branches might interfere with overhead wires. Careful selection of the right trees and shrubs for your space will avoid any potential problems and ensure any trees you plant will be a wonderful addition to your garden.

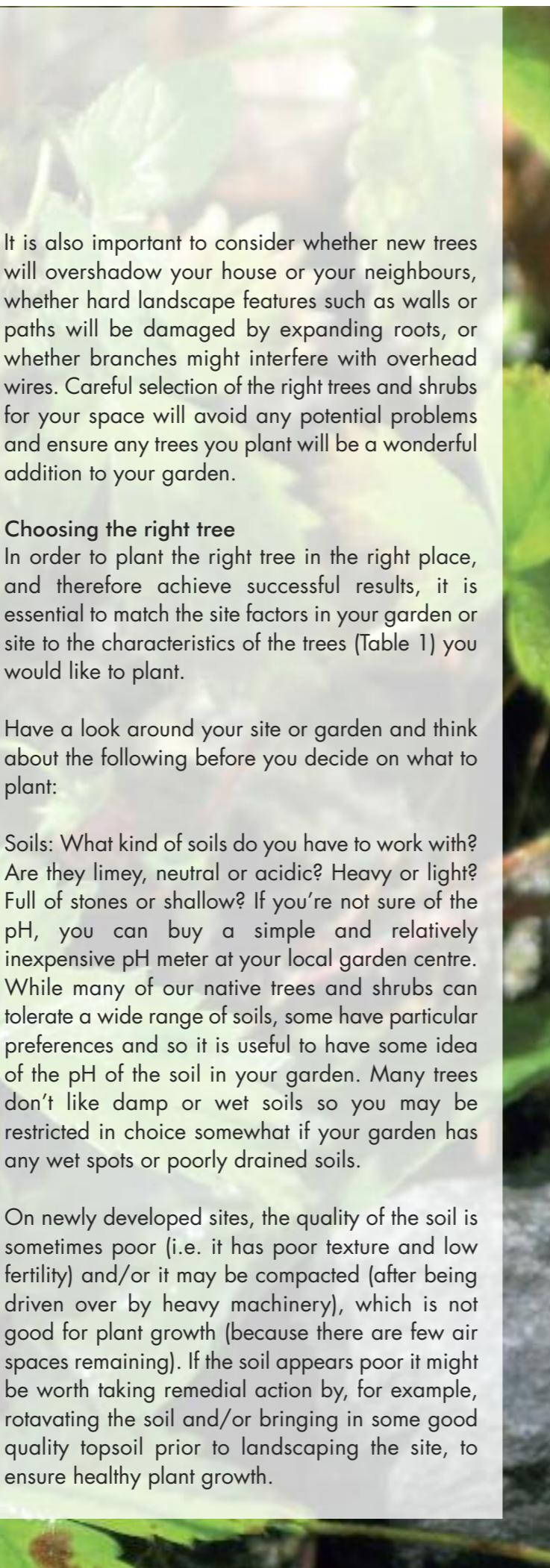
Choosing the right tree

In order to plant the right tree in the right place, and therefore achieve successful results, it is essential to match the site factors in your garden or site to the characteristics of the trees (Table 1) you would like to plant.

Have a look around your site or garden and think about the following before you decide on what to plant:

Soils: What kind of soils do you have to work with? Are they limey, neutral or acidic? Heavy or light? Full of stones or shallow? If you're not sure of the pH, you can buy a simple and relatively inexpensive pH meter at your local garden centre. While many of our native trees and shrubs can tolerate a wide range of soils, some have particular preferences and so it is useful to have some idea of the pH of the soil in your garden. Many trees don't like damp or wet soils so you may be restricted in choice somewhat if your garden has any wet spots or poorly drained soils.

On newly developed sites, the quality of the soil is sometimes poor (i.e. it has poor texture and low fertility) and/or it may be compacted (after being driven over by heavy machinery), which is not good for plant growth (because there are few air spaces remaining). If the soil appears poor it might be worth taking remedial action by, for example, rotavating the soil and/or bringing in some good quality topsoil prior to landscaping the site, to ensure healthy plant growth.



Tá sé tábhachtach, freisin, na rudaí seo a mheas: an bhféadfadh crainn nua scáil a chaitheamh ar do theach nó ar theach do chomharsan, an ndéanfar damáiste do ghnéithe crua tírdhreacha amhail ballaí nó cosáin de bharr fréamhacha atá ag leathnú, nó an gcurfidh géaga crainn isteach ar shreanga lasairde. Déan rogha cúramach maidir leis na crainn agus na toim is cirte don spás atá agat chun fadhbanna amach anseo a sheachaint agus bainfidh tú an leas is fearr as aon chrann a churfidh tú le do ghairdín.

An crann ceart a roghnú

D'fhonn an crann ceart a chur san áit cheart, agus na torthaí is fearr a bhaint amach dá bharr, ní mór duit na cúinsí suímh i do ghairdín nó i do shuíomh a mheatseáil le tréithe na grann (Tábla 1) ar mhaith leat iad a chur.

Ithreacha: Cén sórt ithreacha atá agat i gcomhair na hoibre? An bhfuil siad aolmhar, neodrach nó aigéadach? Trom nó éadrom? Lán le clocha nó éadomhain? Mura bhfuil tú cinnte faoin pH, is féidir leat méadar pH atá simplí agus sách saor a cheannach i d'ionad garraíodóireachta áitiúil. Cé go nglacfaidh go leor dár gcuid crann agus tom dúchasach le réimse leathan ithreacha, fásfaidh cuid acu níos fearr faoi dháláí sonracha agus is áisiúil é tuairim a bheith agat faoin luach pH atá in ithir do ghairdín. Tá cuid mhaith crann nach bhfeileann ithir thais nó fhliuch dóibh agus beidh rogha srianta agat mar sin má bhíonn spotaí fliucha nó ithreacha drochdhraenáilte i do ghairdín.

Uaireanta bíonn droch-chaighdeán ar an ithir i gcás suímh nuafhorbartha (i.e. ní bhíonn an uigeacht ná an torthlúacht go maith inti) agus/nó seans go bhfuil sí balctha (tar éis innealra trom a thiomáint uirthi), rud a chuireann isteach ar fhás plandaí (cheal dóthain spáis fanta san ithir le haghaidh aeir). Mura bhfuil cuma mhaith ar an ithir, b'fhiú duit b'fhéidir gníomhú le rudaí a chur i gceart tríd an ithir a rótachartadh, cuir i gcás, agus/nó barríthir ardchaighdeán a thabhairt isteach sula ndéanfaidh tú an suíomh a thírdhreachadh, chun fás plandaí folláine a chinntíú.



Space: Obviously it is important to consider the space available before you decide what to plant. You don't want to plant a tree that will quickly grow to be a giant in a tiny garden. What size tree will look good in the space available? There are several native trees and shrubs that will fit nicely into small spaces and plenty that will fill a big space. The Tree Selection Guide (Table 1) indicates the maximum size of the main native trees and shrubs. Remember that root spread often extends beyond the crown of the tree (i.e. extent of the branches) and therefore large trees should not be planted too close to buildings or walls. It's also a good idea to look up before planting and check for overhead cables. A fast-growing tree won't take long to cause problems for overhead wires!

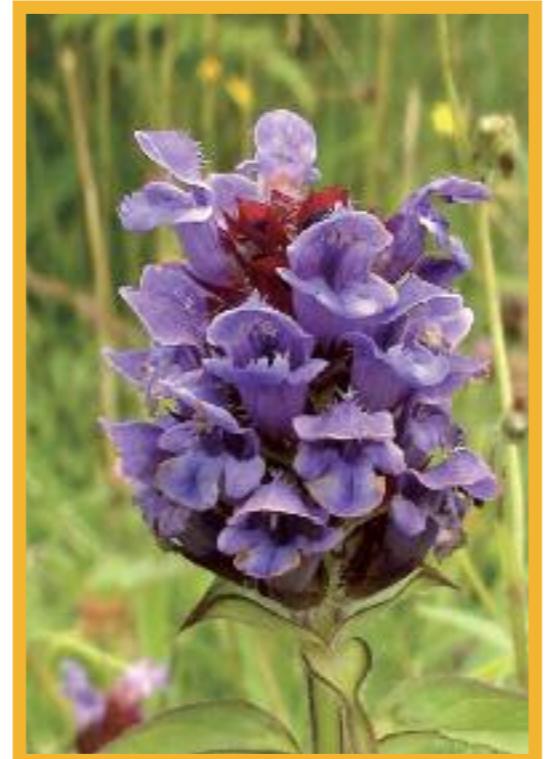
Exposed and/or coastal areas: Is your garden on the side of a hill receiving the full brunt of the prevailing winds? Are you close to the coast? Certain trees are more tolerant of exposure than others (see Table 2). Once you have created some shelter in your garden, you can grow a wider range of plants that are less tolerant of windy conditions. Creating a shelter-belt will help you enjoy being outdoors in your garden and can significantly cut your heating bills.

County Galway has a long coastline and much of the coastal zone is not very conducive to tree growth because it is exposed to salt-laden winds. Some trees and shrubs, however, do manage to survive in these areas and can be used to create a windbreak and provide shelter for your house and garden (Table 2).

Table 2: Native trees and shrubs that tolerate exposure

Common name	Latin name
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> *
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i> *
Broom	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i> *
Burnet rose	<i>Rosa spinosissima</i> *
Gorse	<i>Ulex europaeus</i> *
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
Holly	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>
Juniper	<i>Juniperus communis</i>
Rowan	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>
Scots pine	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>
Whitebeam	<i>Sorbus aria</i> *
Willows	<i>Salix</i>

* Can also tolerate coastal conditions



Self Heal / Dúán ceannchosach

Spás: Is léir an tábhacht atá le méid an spáis a mheas sula ndéanfaidh tú aon chinneadh maidir le cur. Níor mhaith leat crann a chur i ngairdín beag bídeach a d'fhásfadh go tapa chomh mór le fathach. Ceard é méid an chrainn a bheadh go deas breathnú air sa spás atá ar fáil? Fásfaidh roinnt crann agus tom dúchasach go deas néata i spásanna beaga agus tá go leor díobh a líonfaidh spás mór. Léirítear uasairde na bpriomhchrann agus na bpriomhthom dúchasach sa Treoir maidir le Roghnú Crainn (Tábla 1). Ná dearmad gur minic a leathann na fréamhacha thar achar níos leithne ná barr an chrainn (i.e. fairsinge na gcarobhacha) agus dá bharr sin níor cheart crainn a chur róchóngarach d'fhoirgnimh nó do bhallaí. Moltar duit breathnú suas in airde freisin agus seiceáil le haghaidh cáblaí lasnairde sula gcuirfidh tú aon chrann. Ní thógfadh sé i bhfad ar chrann mearfháis a bheith ag cur isteach ar shreanga lasnairde!

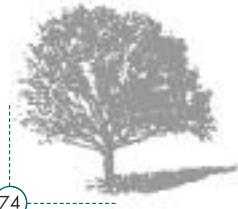
Ceantair sceirdiúla agus/nó cois cósta: An bhfuil do ghairdín suite ar thaobh cnoic agus buailte ag láinchumhacht na bpriomhghaoth? An bhfuil tú gar don chósta? Tá crainn áirithe a ghlaicfaidh níos fearr le noctadadh don aimsir ná crainn eile (Féach Tábla 2). Nuair a bheidh foscadh de shaghas éigin cruthaithe agat i do ghairdín, féadfaidh tú raon níos leithne plandaí a chur nach bhfeileann dálaí gaofara dóibh. Má chruthaíonn tú crios foscaidh bainfidh tú taitneamh as a bheith amuigh i do ghairdín agus d'fhéadfá do bhillí téimh a laghdú go suntasach dá réir.

Tá imeallbhord fada le Contae na Gaillimhe agus tá cuid mhaith den chrios cósta mí-oiriúnach le haghaidh fás crann mar gheall ar a noctadadh do ghaotha lán le salann. Tá roinnt crann agus tom ann, áfach, ar féidir leo maireachtáil sna ceantair seo agus is féidir iad a úsáid le fál foscaidh a chruthú agus foscadh a chur ar fáil don teach agus don ghairdín (Tábla 2).

Tábla 2: Crainn agus toim dhúchasacha a ghlaicann le noctadadh don aimsir

Ainm coiteann	Ainm Laidine
An Fhuinseog	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i> *
An Draighean	<i>Prunus spinosa</i> *
An Ghiolcach Shléibhe	<i>Cytisus scoparius</i> *
An Briúlán	<i>Rosa spinosissima</i> *
An tAiteann Gallda	<i>Ulex europaeus</i> *
An Sceach Gheal	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>
An Cuileann	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i>
An tAiteal	<i>Juniperus communis</i>
An Crann Caorthainn	<i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>
An Péine Albanach	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>
An Fionncholl	<i>Sorbus aria</i> *
Saileacha	<i>Salix</i>

* Is féidir leis cur suas le dálaí cósta chomh maith



TREE SELECTION GUIDE TABLE 1

Common name	Site Suitability				Max Height (m)	Biodiversity Value	Attractive Features
	Public open spaces	Streets & confined spaces	Tubs containers beds	Hedges	Growth rate		
Alder <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	✓ x x ✓	Prefers damp ground and can tolerate flooding; will grow on a wide range of sites.	20	Fast	Seeds for birds and Red Squirrel.	Catkins and cones	
Ash <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	✓ x x ✓	Prefers well-drained neutral to alkaline soils; will withstand exposed and coastal sites; can tolerate damp soils but not waterlogging	28	Med.	Light shade good for ground flora; seeds good for birds, small mammals.	Foliage	
Aspen <i>Populus tremula</i>	✓ x x x	Prefers damp neutral or limey soils (not acid); don't plant close to buildings or any services due to extensive rooting habit.	24	Fast	Insects.	Autumn colour	
Birch, Downy <i>Betula pubescens</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ x	Prefers acid to neutral soils, and tolerates poor soils; not tolerant of shade; fast growing and short lived.	24	Med./ fast	Seeds good for birds, Red Squirrels. Dead wood - very good for insects and fungi.	Catkins, bark, foliage, autumn colour	
Birch, Silver <i>Betula pendula</i> .	✓ ✓ ✓ x	Prefers well-drained, acid to neutral soils; tolerates poor soil but not shade; fast growing, short lived.	18	Med./ fast	Seeds good for birds, Red Squirrels. Dead wood - very good for insects and fungi.	Catkins, bark, foliage, autumn colour	
Bird Cherry <i>Prunus padus</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Prefers damp, fertile, acid to neutral soils; not exposed sites.	6	Med.	Early flowering good for insects; fruit good for birds.	Flowers, berries, autumn colour	
Blackthorn <i>Prunus spinosa</i>	✓ x x ✓	Tolerates a wide range of soils; can grow in exposed and windswept areas; can spread if left unchecked.	4	Med.	Insects. Provides nesting cover and berries for birds.	Flowers, berries	
Buckthorn, Alder <i>Frangula alnus</i>	✓ x ✓ ✓	Grows on damp, lime-rich soils and rocky lake shores. Restricted distribution and availability.	6	Med.	Food plant of Brimstone Butterfly.	Berries	
Buckthorn, Purging <i>Rhamnus catharticus</i>	✓ x ✓ x	Grows on damp, lime-rich soils and lake shores.	5	Med.	Foodplant of the Brimstone Butterfly.	Berries	
Crab Apple <i>Malus sylvestris</i>	✓ x x ✓	Does well in most fertile soils; prefers soils in the range neutral to alkaline.	6	Slow	Early flowering good for insects; fruit good for insects, small mammals, birds	Flowers and fruit	
Elder <i>Sambucus nigra</i>	✓ x x ✓	Prefers fertile soils; hardy.	6	Fast	Insects and birds.	Flowers, berries	
Guelder Rose <i>Viburnum opulus</i>	✓ x x ✓	Prefers lime-rich to neutral, fertile and damp soils (not acid soil).	4.5	Med.	Insects and birds.	Flowers, berries, autumn colour	
Hawthorn <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Tolerates wide range of soils; very hardy for insects, birds.	9	Med/ fast	Provides excellent food and cover and adaptable.	Flowers, berries	
Hazel <i>Corylus avellana</i>	✓ ✓ x ✓	Prefers well-drained and calcareous soils.	6	Fast/ Med.	Birds, small mammals, insects.	Catkins, nuts	
Holly <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	A hardy species; tolerant of exposed sites and shade; tolerates wide range of soil types but not poorly drained soil.	15	Slow	Berries important for birds; food plant of Holly Blue Butterfly; winter roosting for birds.	Evergreen foliage, berries (female only)	

Common name	Site Suitability				Max Height (m)	Biodiversity Value	Attractive Features
	Public open spaces	Streets & confined spaces	Tubs containers beds	Hedges	Growth rate		
Whitebeam <i>Sorbus aria</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Prefers lime-rich to neutral soils; tolerates coastal exposure, rocky ground and damp sites but not very wet soils.	15	Med.	Insects. Important berry crop.	Foliage, flowers, berries	
Juniper <i>Juniperus communis</i>	✓ x x x	Grows in rocky areas and on upland heath; tolerant of exposure.	6	Med.	Birds.	Evergreen foliage	
Pedunculate Oak <i>Quercus robur</i>	✓ x x x	Prefers heavy and fertile soils but tolerant of a wide range including damp soils; suitable for large spaces.	30	Med.	Food and cover for birds, squirrels, and insects. Dead wood. Fungi. Epiphytes.	Foliage, autumn colour, acorns	
Rowan <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Very hardy; tolerates poor, thin soils and exposed sites; does not like wet sites.	9	Fast	Insects. Important berry crop.	Flowers and berries	
Scots Pine <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	✓ x x x	Prefers dry light sandy soils; tolerates marginal land and peaty soils.	24	Med.	Good for nesting and winter roosting birds. Cones excellent for Red Squirrel.	Cones, evergreen foliage	
Sessile Oak <i>Quercus petraea</i>	✓ x x x	Grows on poor, acid soils as long as well-drained; suitable for large spaces.	30	Med.	Food and cover for birds, squirrels, insects. Dead wood. Fungi.	Foliage, autumn colour, acorns	
Spindle <i>Euonymus europaeus</i>	✓ x x ✓	Prefers heavy limey soils but tolerates wide range.	7	Med.	Good for insects.	Flowers, berries, autumn colour	
Wild Cherry <i>Prunus avium</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	Prefers fertile (slightly acid) soils; tolerates heavy soils and some shade; does not like wet sites.	15	Med.	Early flowering good for insects. Fruit good for birds.	Flowers, berries, autumn colour	
Willow <i>Salix spp.</i>	✓ x x ✓	Will grow on damp/wet soils along rivers, lakes and in floodplains.	6	Fast	Birds, insects, fungi, dead wood.	Catkins, autumn colour	
Wych Elm <i>Ulmus glabra</i>	✓ x x ✓	Thrives in fertile well-drained soil; tolerates shade; does not like very dry sites.	30	Med.	Early flowers for insects; seeds for red squirrels. Lichens. Dead wood.	Autumn colour	
Yew <i>Taxus baccata</i>	✓ x ✓ x	Prefers well-drained alkaline soils; tolerates deep shade and rocky sites. Seeds and leaves poisonous.	14	Slow	Berries good for birds.	Evergreen. Berries (female only).	

The information in this Table is based on various sources.:

County Galway Biodiversity Guidelines (www.galwaycountybiodiversity.com)

Fuller, J. 2008. Hedgerows of County Galway. Galway County Council.

Fuller, J. 2007. Buds of the Banner. Clare County Council.

Heritage council. Conserving and Enhancing Wildlife in Towns and Villages.

People's Millennium Forests, 2000. Our Trees – A guide to growing Ireland's native trees in celebration of a new millennium.

The People's Millennium Forests Project.

TREOIR MAIDIR LE ROGNÚ CRAINN TÁBLA 1

Ainm coiteann	Oiriúnacht Suímh	Uasairde (m)	Luach Bithéagsúlachta	Gnéisithe Tarraingteacha
	Spásanna oscailte poiblí Sráideanna & spásanna teoranta Tobáin, coimeádáin, ceapacha Fálta	Ráta fáis		
An Fhearnóg <i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	✓ x x ✓ Is fearr leis ithir thais agus glacaídh sé le tuile; fásfaidh sé i raon leathan láithreán.	20 Fast	Síolta d'éin agus don iora rua.	Caitíní agus buaircíní
An Fhuinseog <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	✓ x x ✓ Is fearr leis ithreacha dea-dhraenáilte neodrach nó alcaileach; fásfaidh i límitéir sceirdiúla agus cois cósta; is féidir leis glacadh le híthreacha taise ach gan iad a bheith leathbháite..	28 Measártha	Scáil éadrom atá go maith le haghaidh flóra talún; tá na síolta go maith d'éin agus do mhamaigh bheaga.	Duilliúr
An Crann Creathach <i>Populus tremula</i>	✓ x x x Is fearr leis ithreacha taise atá neodrach nó aolmar (ní aigéadach); ní cur rochóngarach d'fhoirgnimh nó d'aon seirbhís mar gheall ar a nós fréamhaithé an-fhairsing.	24 Mear	Feithidí	Dath san Fhómhar
An Bheith Chlúmhach <i>Betula pubescens</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ x Is fearr leis ithreacha atá idir aigéadach agus neodrach agus glacaídh sé le híthreacha bochta; ní fhásfaidh sé faoi scáil; mear-ráta fáis agus saolré ghearr.	24 Measártha/ Mear	Tá na síolta go maith d'éin d'ioráí rua. Adhmad marbh - an mhaith d'fheithidí agus d'fhungais.	Caitíní, coirt, duilliúr, dath san Fhómhar
An Bheith Gheal <i>Betula pendula</i> .	✓ ✓ ✓ x Is fearr leis ithreacha dea-dhraenáilte atá aigéadach nó neodrach; glacaídh sé le híthir bhocht ach ní faoi scáil; mear-ráta fáis agus saolré ghearr.	18 Measártha/ Mear	Tá na síolta go maith d'éin, d'ioráí rua. Adhmad marbh - an mhaith d'fheithidí agus d'fhungais.	Caitíní, coirt, duilliúr, dath san Fhómhar
An Donnroisc <i>Prunus padus</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ Is fearr leis ithreacha taise torthúla, idir aigéadach agus neodrach; seachain láithreán sceirdiúla.	6 Measártha	Tá an luathbhláthú go maith d'fheithidí; na tortaí go maith d'éin.	Bláthanna, caora, dath san Fhómhar
An Draighean <i>Prunus spinosa</i>	✓ x x x ✓ Glacaídh sé le raon leathan ithreacha; tá sé in ann fás i gceantair loma sceirdiúla; scaipfidh sé go forleathan má scoiltear leis.	4 Measártha	Feithidí. Cuireann sé cumhdach neadaíthe agus caora ar fáil d'éin.	Bláthanna, caora
An Draighean Fearna <i>Frangula alnus</i>	✓ x ✓ ✓ ✓ Fásann sé in ithreacha taise aolmhara agus cois lochanna carraigeacha. Dáileadh agus fáil orthu teoranta.	6 Measártha	Biaphlanda don bhuióg ruibheach.	Caora
An Paide Bréan <i>Rhamnus catharticus</i>	✓ x ✓ x Fásann sé in ithreacha taise aolmhara agus cois lochanna.	5 Measártha	Biaphlanda don bhuióg ruibheach.	Caora
An Fia-Úll <i>Malus sylvestris</i>	✓ x x ✓ Rathaíonn sé i bhformhór na n-ithreacha torthúla; is fearr leis ithreacha neodracha nó alcaileacha.	6 Mall	An luathbhláthú go maith d'fheithidí; na tortaí go maith d'fheithidí, do mhamaigh bheaga agus d'éin.	Bláthanna agus tortaí
An Trom <i>Sambucus nigra</i>	✓ x x ✓ Is fearr leis ithreacha torthúla; speiceas crua.	6 Mear	Feithidí agus éin	Bláthanna, caora, dath san Fhómhar
An Chaor Chon <i>Viburnum opulus</i>	✓ x x ✓ Is fearr leis ithreacha taise torthúla atá idir aolmar agus neodrach (ní ithir aigéadach).	4.5 Measártha	Feithidí agus éin	Bláthanna, caora, dath san Fhómhar
An Sceach Gheal <i>Crataegus monogyna</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ Glacaídh sé le raon leathan ithreacha; crua agus an-inoiriúnaithe do chuínsí éagsúla.	9 Measártha/ Mear	Cuireann sé cumhdach agus bia den scoth ar fáil d'fheithidí agus d'éin.	Bláthanna, caora
An Coll <i>Corylus avellana</i>	✓ ✓ x ✓ Is fearr leis ithreacha cailcreacha dea-dhraenáilte.	6 Mear/ Measártha	Éin, mamaigh bheaga, feithidí.	Caitíní, cnónna

Ainm coiteann	Oiriúnacht Suímh	Uasairde (m)	Luach Bithéagsúlachta	Gnéisithe Tarraingteacha
	Spásanna oscailte poiblí Sráideanna & spásanna teoranta Tobáin, coimeádáin, ceapacha Fálta	Ráta fáis		
An Cuileann <i>Ilex aquifolium</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ Speiceas crua; in ann cur suas le scáth agus le láithreán nochta don aimsir; fásann i réimse leathan cineálacha ithreach ach amháin ithir nach bhfuil draenáil mhaith inti.	15 Mall	Tá na caora tábhachtach d'éin; biaphlanda don ghormán cuillinn; téann na héin ar an bhfara ann sa gheimhríd.	Duilliúr síorghlas, caora (í gcás na mbaineannach amháin)
An Fionncholl <i>Sorbus aria</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ Is fearr leis ithreacha atá idir aolmar agus neodrach; fásfaidh sé ar an gcósta, ar thalamh carraigeach agus ar láithreán thaiseach ní tháistíodh in ithreacha atá an-fhliuch.	15 Measártha	Feithidí. Barr tábhachtach caor.	Duilliúr, bláthanna, caora
An tAiteal <i>Juniperus communis</i>	✓ x x x x Fásann in áiteanna carraigeacha agus ar fhraochmhá sléibhe; in ann glacadh le noctadh don aimsir.	6 Measártha	Éin	Duilliúr síorghlas
An Dair Ghalla <i>Quercus robur</i>	✓ x x x x Is fearr leis ithreacha troma agus torthúla ach glacaídh le raon leathan ithreacha taise; oiriúnach do spásanna móra.	30 Measártha	Bia agus foscadh d'éin, d'ioráí rua agus d'fheithidí. Adhmad marbh. Fungais. Eipítífi.	Duilliúr, dath an Fhómhar, dearcaí
An Crann Caorthainn <i>Sorbus aucuparia</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ An-chrua; in ann cur suas le híthreacha atá bocht agus éadomhain; ní oireann áiteanna flíucha dó.	9 Mear	Feithidí. Barr tábhachtach caor.	Bláthanna agus caora
An Péine Albanach <i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	✓ x x x x Is fearr leis ithreacha tirime éadroime gainmheacha; glacaídh sé le talamh imedliach agus le híthreacha móinteacha.	24 Measártha	Go maith d'éin ghoir agus d'éin a théann ar an bhfara sa gheimhreadh. Tá na buaircíní an-mhaith don iora rua.	Buaircíní, duilliúr síorghlas
An Dair Ghaelach <i>Quercus petraea</i>	✓ x x x x Fásann in ithreacha bochta, aigéadacha ach draenáil mhaith a bheith iontu; oiriúnach do spásanna móra.	30 Measártha	Bia agus foscadh d'éin, d'ioráí rua agus d'fheithidí. Adhmad marbh. Fungais.	Duilliúr, dath an Fhómhar, dearcaí
An Crann Feoras <i>Euonymous europaeus</i>	✓ x x ✓ Is fearr leis ithreacha troma aolmhara agus glacaídh sé le raon leathan ithreacha.	7 Measártha	Go maith d'fheithidí.	Bláthanna, caora, dath san Fhómhar
An Silín Fián <i>Prunus avium</i>	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ Is fearr leis ithreacha torthúla (beagán aigéadach); glacaídh sé le híthreacha troma agus le beagán scáthá; ní oireann áiteanna flíucha dó.	15 Measártha	Tá an luathbhláthú go maith d'fheithidí. Tortaí go maith d'éin.	Bláthanna, caora, dath san Fhómhar
An tSaileach <i>Salix spp.</i>	✓ x x ✓ Fásann in ithreacha taise/flíucha cois abhann, cois locha agus ar thuilemhánná.	6 Mear	Éin, feithidí, fungais, adhmad marbh.	Caitíní, dath an Fhómhar
An Leamhán Sléibhe <i>Ulmus glabra</i>	✓ x x ✓ Bíonn rath air in ithir thorthúil dhea-dhraenáilte; scáthfhlangach; ní oireann áiteanna an-tírme dó.	30 Measártha	Na luathbhláthanna go maith d'fheithidí; na síolta go maith d'ioráí rua. Léicin. Adhmad marbh.	Dath san Fhómhar
An tlúr <i>Taxus baccata</i>	✓ x ✓ x x Is fearr leis ithreacha dea-dhraenáilte alcaileacha; in ann fás faoi scáth domhain ní in áiteanna carraigeacha. Tá na síolta agus na duillí nimhiúil.	14 Mall	Tá na caora go maith d'éin	Síorghlas. Caora (í gcás na mbaineannach amháin)

Tá an t-eolas sa Tábla seo bunaithe ar fhoinsí éagsúla:

County Galway Biodiversity Guidelines (www.galwaycountybiodiversity.com). Fuller, J. 2008. The Hedgerows of County Galway. Comhairle Contae na Gaillimhe, Gaillimh. Fuller, J. 2007. Buds of the Banner. Comhairle Contae an Chláir. An Chomhairle Oidhreachta. Conserving and Enhancing Wildlife in Towns and Villages. Peoples Millennium Forests, 2000. Our Trees – A guide to growing Ireland's native trees in celebration of a new millennium. The Peoples Millennium Forests Project.



Characteristics of our native trees and shrubs

The Tree Selection Guide (Table 1) indicates the relevant characteristics of the main native trees and shrubs in Ireland. This guide lists the maximum height of each of the trees and shrubs although size can vary considerably from site to site depending on the nature of the soil and local environment. Those trees and shrubs that are suitable for shaded or exposed gardens are also indicated. Growth rate is important if you want something to quickly provide screening or shelter. The value of each species to wildlife (= biodiversity value) is also briefly described, which can help you decide what to plant if you want to create a wildlife-friendly garden. The most attractive features of each tree and shrub are noted to assist garden design.

Types of planting stock available

People often don't realise when buying trees and shrubs that there is a range of sizes and types of planting stock available. The right choice for you depends on the scale of planting (e.g. a large area to be planted or a small garden), the planting scheme (e.g. a public green space where immediate impact may be required), and the nature of site (e.g. exposed or sheltered) and of course, the budget.



Bare-root tree / Crann fréamhlom

Trees and shrubs can be bought from a tree nursery, garden centre, or even by mail order. The main types of planting stock available are: i) bare-rooted trees in winter, ii) pot or container grown trees and iii) root-balled trees. And they come in a range of sizes from 'whips' (45 cm - 250 cm height), to light standards (6-8 cm girth), standards (8-10 cm girth) and heavy standards (12-14 cm girth), and various sizes in between.

The best approach when choosing trees is to buy a range of sizes, if you can. Large trees (known as 'heavy standards') make an immediate and often impressive impact adding instant maturity to your garden but they are more difficult to plant, require staking and can be expensive. Smaller trees are easier to move and plant, are more likely to establish successfully, may not require staking, can adapt more easily to exposed sites, and are usually considerably cheaper (depending on the species). By purchasing one or two large trees (or more depending on space and budget) and several smaller trees, you can transform the green space around your house into a beautiful mature garden.