

Tag/Smooth Alder

Genus/species *Alnus serrulata*

Family Betulaceae

Distribution **Eastern US**
S Maine southward to N Florida
N Florida westward to E Texas
E Texas northward to central Missouri
Missouri northeastward to Maine
Absent from most of Ohio and Lower Mississippi Valleys

Comments This species, commonly seen along stream banks and other moist areas at low elevations of the southeastern US, is also known as Hazel Alder. It is a large shrub or small tree. Leaves are about 2 to 4 inches long and somewhat more than half as wide, with a wavy margin and fine teeth. Male catkins mature in the spring, and after releasing the wind-borne pollen they fall off. Female catkins appear around the same period but ripen into small cones (a half inch in length or less) later in the season.

