

Alnus species

PRE-TREATMENT – 4 weeks prior to sowing, place seeds into a cotton bag/muslin cloth/foot of an old stocking and soak seeds in cold water for 24 – 48 hours. Drain and dry the surface of the seeds by spinning in a salad spinner or by using the foot of an old stocking to spin around and remove excess water. The next step is to perform cold stratification for 4 weeks in the refrigerator.

SOWING – Best time to sow seeds is in Spring. Use a good quality seed raising mix and sow seed in individual pots, put approx. 5 seeds per pot, cover with 3 – 5mm of washed river sand – do not bury too deeply! Mist water to avoid seed disturbance. Place in a shady sheltered spot and wait for them to sprout. The seeds need to stay moist to germinate so make sure they do not dry out! When the seedlings start to sprout wait and remove all but the strongest seedling.

