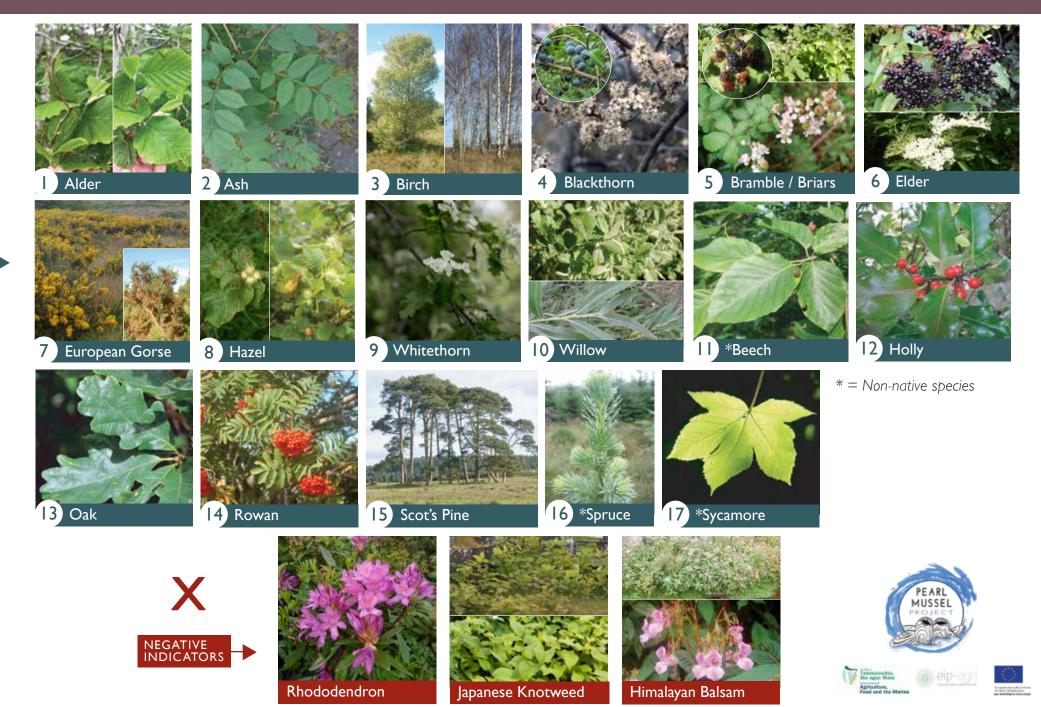
Pearl Mussel Project Species Identification Card









Woodland

Woodland is defined as any area that is dominated by trees, as opposed to shrubs, and where the canopy height is greater than 5m, or 4m in the case of woodland in wetland areas or bogs. The canopy may be open but should be distinct.

Scrub habitat

Scrub (established rather than encroaching) habitat is an area that is dominated by at least 50% cover of shrubs, stunted trees or brambles. The canopy height is less than 5m, or 4m in the case of wetland areas.

Scrub frequently develops as a precursor to woodland and is often found in inaccessible locations, or on abandoned or marginal farmland.

In the absence of grazing and mowing, scrub can expand to replace grassland or heath vegetation.

Scrub can be open or dense and impenetrable, and it can occur on areas of dry, damp or waterlogged ground.

Common plants include hawthorn, blackthorn, gorse, bramble, and roses in addition to a number of willows, small birches and stunted hazel.

The field layer is often impoverished and poorly developed, but in some situations, may be similar to that of woodland.

N.B. any areas of non native shrubs e.g. Rhododendron or cherry laurel should be excluded.

N.B. Birches, hazel and some willows may occur both as trees and shrubs.

