



**Scientific Name:**

*Pinus halepensis*

**English:**

Aleppo Pine

**Maltese:**

*is-sigra taż-żnuber*

The Aleppo Pine is native of the Mediterranean region. An evergreen tree, it has needle-like green leaves, which are produced in pairs. Both male and female cones are borne on the same tree; the males are small, yellowish-brown and found at the base of young shoots. The female cones, on the other hand, are larger and reddish in colour, and may be oval or oblong.

This species used to grow naturally in the wild in Malta; however, it was completely eradicated at the beginning of the last century. Despite this, seeds from the native stock were used in afforestation schemes - in effect saving the Maltese population. Today, the Aleppo Pine has been observed as regenerating in certain areas.

This species is protected through national legislation, while habitats characterised by this species are considered of importance under EU legislation. In this regard, a number of sites have been designated to afford protection to this species and related habitats.

