

Unlike other trees in the same family I am evergreen which means I keep my leaves all year round



By looking closely at this picture can you guess to which tree family I belong?

Who Am I?



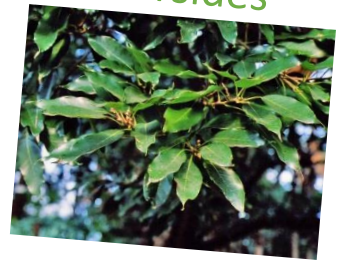
I don't come from England – my real home is around the Mediterranean

As I am resistant to salt spray I am often planted as windbreaks along coastal areas. My wood is very hard so is often used to make agricultural equipment.

In ancient Greece, my leaves were used to tell the future and they were also used to make crowns to honour people.



My leaves are oval shaped and dark green to black with a coating of pale hairs on the undersides



I don't provide shelter for as many species of birds or animals as other trees in my family but my catkins provide a source of pollen for bees and other insects

