

Rønhede

1)

Every year, around 8 million Christmas trees are cut in Denmark.

We only use one 5th of them here in Denmark, while the rest are exported to many countries in Europe, among others to Germany, France, Great Britain, Norway and Sweden.

Most of the christmas trees are of the species, that grow here.

You will recognize them, because they are “well filled out”, symmetrical, they have a shining dark green colour, and they keep their needles - also when they are placed inside a warm living room.

What is the name of this tree-species?

1) Nordmann fir

X) Red fir

2) Blue fir

2)

The beech is the most common leaf-bearing tree in the woods of Denmark.

The shape of the tree depends on how and where it grows. If it stands on a free spot, it will have a short, thick stem and an enormous crown. If it stands close among the other trees, like the trees in this area, it will have long naked stems, almost without laterals, and the crown is far up on top of the tree, where the light reaches it.

The fruit of the beech is a small “bowl” with two triangular nuts. Every nut can become a whole new beech tree.

What is the fruit of the beech called?

1) Acorn

X) Beech mast

2) Nuts

3)

The many lakes and water holes in Rønhede Plantation where formed during the ice age.

When the ice moved in over the country, enormous lumps of ice were torn of. They were covered by clay, sand and gravel, which was brought in with the ice.

When the ice age ended, and the climate turned milder, the ice-lumps slowly melted away and left water-filled holes in the ground.

What is the name of these holes?

1) Ice-water holes

X) Kettle holes

2) Ice lakes

4)

A planting in the woods is called a “culture”. Here at the right, you will find a “culture” of beech and larch trees.

However, there are also other trees in the culture, which have not been planted, but were sown naturally.

What is the name of the trees with the white cortex and the fruits hanging in catkins?

- 1) Birch
- X) Beech
- 2) Ash

5)

The wood in this area has been left alone for many years, and it has been decided, that this is also how it's going to be in future. It looks a bit messy, but it gives us the opportunity to see how the woods will develop, untouched by man.

As time goes by, the forest floor will become a wilderness of dead and fallen stems, and holes will arise, where new trees will grow. There will be plenty of food for bugs and fungus, and many birds will find nest-holes in the dead trees.

In technical jargon, we call such a piece of woods...

- 1) Dead woods
- X) Abandoned woods
- 2) Untouched woods

6)

The many beautiful mounds in Rønhede Plantation are grave mounds from the Bronze Age. Inside, in the middle of the mound, the central grave is placed.

However, quite often, the mounds have been used again. New entombments have been made, and the mounds have become both wider and taller.

How old are the bronze age mounds?

- 1) 2,000 years
- X) 3,000 years
- 2) 4,000 years

7)

The name, Rønhede means "the heath with the rowans". This tells us, that the plantation is not a dune plantation like most of the other plantations in Thy. It is a heath plantation. Even though, the place has been covered by woods for more than 100 years, we can still find remains of the heath vegetation.

The plant is called...

- 1) Crowberry
- X) Blueberry
- 2) Heather

8)

Until 1937, there was no general preservation of the grave mounds. Therefore, the owner was allowed to remove the mound from his land, if it was in his way. This way more than 3 quarters of all the grave mounds in Thy disappeared.

It was possible though, that the owner agreed to a voluntary preservation. If this was the case, the preservation was registered on his property, and a granite stone with the inscription 'FM' was placed on the mound.

What does FM mean?

- 1) Before the Middle Ages ('Før middelalderen')
- X) Preserved monument ('Fredet mindesmærke')
- 2) For humanity ('For menneskeheden')

9)

The oak trees here are about 70 years old.

Oak tree is heavy, strong and durable.

In olden days, it was very important for the kings, that there were enough big oak trees in the country.

The tree was used for something quite specific.

What was the oak trees used for?

- 1) Building ships
- X) Building houses
- 2) Firewood

10)

The grave mound is called 'Myrehøj'.

What is unusual is not the name of the mound, but instead the plant that almost covers the mound.

It is a plant that is normally found in marshes, ditches and in moist hollows.

We use it to put on Schnapps, and a brewery here in the area also makes use of it for brewing beer.

What is the name of the plant?

- 1) Willow
- X) Bird cherry
- 2) Sweet gale

11)

The big open areas with low plantation are the old beds from when there was a nursery here. There was a Forest nursery (DK: 'Planteskole') in Rønhede plantation for 70 years from the 1920s until the beginning of the 1990s, where production was brought to an end. During the golden age of the nursery, in the 1980s, 0,5 million plants were produced every year.

The word 'Planteskole' (plant school) is a funny word, which does not have much to do with a school. In English, it is called 'nursery'. It also means 'children's room'.

What does the word 'Planteskole' (Nursery) mean?

- 1) A place, where you can learn about plants
- X) A place, where you can learn how to plant
- 3) A place, where the plants stay when they are little, and where they are prepared for their future life in the woods

12)

This tree - or bush was once more common in Denmark, than it is today. During the Palaeolithic stone age - about 7-9,000 years ago - it grew in a mix of fir trees and almost covered the whole

country. Later, it was supplanted by other tree species, which grew faster and were able to shade it out.

Today, the bush, that grows big, tasty fruits is most often found in windbreaks and in fringes of the woods in eastern Denmark.

The bush is...

- 1) An Elm
- X) A Lime
- 2) A Hazel

13)

The Anniversary tree was planted by the mayor of Southern Thy at the Rønhede Plantation's 100 year anniversary in 2000.

The tree species is not naturally found in the Danish woods, it was brought here from Southern and Central Europe.

Here, it is quite popular. Partly because it grows into a big, beautiful tree, and partly because of its fruits, which we roast and sell in streets and squares.

The tree is a...

- 1) Sweet Chestnut
- X) Walnut
- 2) Locust