

# na Sióga agus na Sióg

Conair draíochta trí thailte Ard-Mhúsaem na hÉireann - Saol na Tuaithe

## of Fairies and Fairy Folk

A magical trail through the grounds of the National Museum of Ireland – Country Life

## Feá

#### Fagus sylvatica

Agus é aitheanta go forleathan mar Bhanríon na Coille, tugann an crann feá cosaint, cothú agus críonnacht. Tugann a cheannbhrat leathan foscadh agus scáth agus soláthraíonn na cnónna air foinse luachmhar próitéine.

Speiceas is ea an feá a tugadh isteach, agus faightear clampaí crann aibí go minic ar thailte eastát ina ndearnadh iad a chur mar fhoinse ioncaim.

Táirgeann crainn feá cnónna feá nó meas feá: bia saor in aisce do na muca agus fianna fiáine a bhíodh ag fánaíocht tráth thart faoi fhearainn pháirce eastát.

Cuireann crainn feá feabhas ar thorthúlacht na hithreach agus is féidir leo fás go dtí go mbeidh siad 200 bliain d'aois agus casadh ar a ngais chun an ghrian a sú isteach.

### Beech

#### Fagus sylvatica

Widely known as the Queen of the Woods, the beech tree offers protection, nourishment and wisdom. Its broad canopy provides shelter and shade and its nuts provide a valuable source of protein.

The beech is an introduced species, with stands of mature trees often found on estate lands where they were planted as a source of income.

Beech trees produce beechnuts or beechmast: free food for the wild pigs and deer that once roamed estate parklands.

Beech trees improve the fertility of soil and can grow to be 200 years old; their leaves are sensitive to light and twist on their stalks to soak up the sun.

