```matlab
% Question 1:- Step 1: Read the image
imagePath = 'tree.png';
img = imread(imagePath);

% Step 2: Convert to grayscale (if the image is RGB)
if size(img, 3) == 3
    grayImg = rgb2gray(img);
else
    grayImg = img; % If already grayscale
end

% Step 3: Applying a threshold to create a binary mask
threshold = 128;
binaryMask = grayImg > threshold;


binaryMask = imclose(binaryMask, strel('disk', 3));

% Step 4: Displaying the original image and the binary mask
figure;
subplot(1, 2, 1);
imshow(img);
title('Original Image');

subplot(1, 2, 2);
imshow(binaryMask);
title('Binary Mask');
```
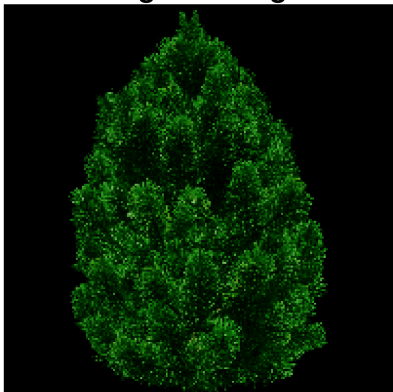
Original Image

Binary Mask