

62

Ac

4th edition

[1959]

LIBRARY
RECEIVED
★ JAN 28 1959
U. S. Department of Agriculture



Native American Holly Farms

115 S. Penn Street

Manheim, Pennsylvania

The finest Hollies in the East

MEMBER HOLLY SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Price 25 Cents

Index

Your Potted Holly	2
Introduction	3
Species of Holly	4
Sex of Hollies	6
Propagation of Holly	8
A Word About Our Nursery	9
Planting of Hollies	11
Care of Hollies	13
Holly Hedges	14
Transplanting Large Hollies	15
Your Christmas Holly	15

Your Potted Holly

Small English Hollies may be kept indoors and prove to be very interesting house plants. Always keep them in a reasonably cool location being particularly careful to avoid setting them near a radiator or warm air register and no higher than window sill level. You may locate your Holly anywhere as exposure is not important.

Give your Holly a little water every day. Proper watering will maintain a rich brown color on the peat moss on the top of the container. Maintain this coloration at all times and never let it get dry or your Holly will lose its leaves and die.

Hollies must be protected for several years if you intend to grow them into outdoor specimens. It is a good procedure to replant them in a 6 inch red clay pot in the spring of the year and then plant pot and all outdoors in the flower bed. Water your Holly thoroughly every several days while outdoors. If you follow this procedure your plant will thrive and you can again enjoy it as a house plant next winter. If you prefer to leave it outdoors protect it as described on page 9.

Holly in order to produce fruit must be several years old and will require a male plant for pollination. See page 6 of this booklet covering the sex of Hollies. We mark the male plants with a white ring for proper identification.

Introduction

A Holly tree, unlike many other trees, resembles people in that the trees are either Male or Female. The leaves of both trees are thick and spiny and are of a dark green color. Holly never sheds all of its leaves at one time; as a matter of fact it always retains the leaves for two years and in the spring when the new growth begins it then loses the leaves that formed two years ago and this cycle continues for the life of the tree. It is not unusual to find Holly for the first twenty years of its life, if properly cared for, to attain a growth of more than a foot a year. Holly trees are known to have grown 50 feet and taller and have attained trunk diameters of more than 2 feet. Some of these trees growing today are estimated to be 300 or more years old.

There is much folk-lore, legend and myth connected with the historical significance of Holly and in America we have Hollies that were planted at Williamsburg, Virginia and at Mount Vernon in the days of the early settlers. It is entirely possible that George Washington was instrumental in the planting of some of these old trees.

Unfortunately in America the better Hollies were not cared for properly and a large portion of the specimen trees were used as timber, or for the manufacture of furniture; the textile in-

dustry also used large quantities in the production of bobbins and looms. In later years much of the remaining Holly was cut for Holiday decorations with little thought given toward the replanting of the trees that were destroyed in this manner.

Holly has played a picturesque part in the history of the world. History tells us that in the old days the ancient Druids carried on their old custom of burning the Yule Log which signified the burning out of old wrongs and heartaches. No one on whom the light of this flame fell could nourish any resentment or have any ill feeling toward their fellow men. A little while later in history we find that the Christians used Holly as a Christmas Green because the spiny tipped leaves and bright red berries of the Holly symbolized the Crown of Thorns and Drops of Blood that Our Lord Jesus shed for us.

Species of Holly

There are over 500 recognized species of Holly, and many more that have not been validated. Most of these are of little or no significance to the average person and we will mention only a few of the more commonly recognized varieties.

Ilex Opaca—American Holly—Leaves are dull to a glossy green and vary in size and shape. In

general the American Holly has a very definite spine tip on the leaves and the fruit is predominately bright red although some varieties produce yellow or orange fruit.

Ilex Crenata—Japanese Holly—Small boxwood like leaves and the fruit is black.

Ilex Aquifolium—English Holly—Large glossy green leaves with prominent spines and the fruit is red. There are many variations of English Holly in that the leaves may be entirely green, or they might have a variegated edge or center. The fruit is generally red but on some varieties it might be yellow or orange. There are also some sterile varieties that bear no fruit.

Ilex Cornuta—Chinese Holly—Leaves are dark green and generally have only about 5 spines. The fruit is usually red although some varieties produce yellow fruit.

It was mentioned that there are over 500 species of Holly. There are many varieties within every species and when a good seedling or tree is discovered that warrants propagation and naming this is generally done by the discoverer and we have a new named variety. This has been done rather freely in the past and emphasis is now placed upon a very thorough check on existing Hollies before naming and producing additional varieties.

Sex of Hollies

Most Hollies have a definite sex, that is, either male or female. In young Hollies it is impossible to tell them apart until they are old enough to blossom since the leaves and general appearance of both sex trees are identical. The flower of the female tree when pollinated forms the berry and although the male does not bear fruit it is necessary to have a male tree close enough to the female so that the bees and insects as well as normal air currents will carry the pollen from the male or staminate flower to the female or pistillate flower.

Your Holly will bloom in early May. The difference between the male and female trees can be determined by noting the difference in the blossoms. The flowers of the male tree grow in clusters and the stamens are large and erect, and the pistil or center of the flower is quite small. On the female Hollies we find only one flower on a stem, the stamens appear small and withered and the pistil is a large greenish knob which develops into the berry when pollinated by the male flower.

In the growing of isolated Hollies it must be remembered that both sex trees must be in the immediate vicinity in order to have the female produce berries. Hollies have been known to produce berries when the trees have been separated several miles but there is no assurance that polli-

nation will take place at great distances. It is best to plant them as close as practical and more complete pollination will take place if they are within several hundred feet or closer.

In the planting of different species of Holly you must have a male tree of each because Hollies do not generally cross-pollinate between species, e.g., you must have both a male and female American Holly and a male and female English Holly in order to produce berries on each species.

If your Hollies do not produce berries one or more of the following might well be the cause of your trouble.

1. Possibly your Holly is too young to bloom and bear fruit.
2. Possibly both of your trees are of the same sex.
3. Possibly your male and female tree are of different species.
4. Possibly your male tree does not bloom at the same time as the female.
5. Your Holly should be kept well fertilized to obtain good natural growth and it should be kept adequately watered in hot dry weather. If the tree appears diseased see your nurseryman.
6. If none of the above causes are prevalent sometimes a good root pruning will be sufficient stimulant to force flowering and berries.

Propagation of Holly

The natural way to produce any plant or tree is from seed. Hollies may be produced in this manner but in so doing there is no assurance that the seedling when sprouted and grown will have the same leaf formation, color or berrying characteristics as the parent tree. It cannot even be said that the tree will be a male or female because Hollies have sex just like you and I and various sources indicate that it is quite likely that from 15 to 20 male trees germinate to every female when grown from seed. Most Hollies require approximately two years for the seeds to germinate so if it is your intention to attempt to grow any Holly seedlings be sure to plant them where they can be cared for over a 2 year period without being destroyed.

The normal and practical way to produce Hollies is by grafting, budding or planting cuttings from the tree that you wish to reproduce. Because there are both male and female Holly trees it is necessary to root cuttings from both sexes in order to have known male and female stock available. Remember that it is the female tree that produces the berries. Carefully mark all your cuttings so that at a later date you will know which is which. Cuttings from a female tree will produce another female tree when rooted and the same holds true of the male.



Native American Holly Farms

Manheim, Pennsylvania

MEMBER HOLLY SOCIETY OF AMERICA

"Thank you" for your interest in our pet subject "Hollies". This booklet will answer most of your technical questions but perhaps you'd like to know how we raise our "children".

Nursery school opens in late July when we take our cuttings. There the little dears remain all winter under a warm glass blanket and by early spring they are ready to go to first grade. Each little Jim and Jane is given a smart metal ring to tell their teachers their name and origin. Jim sports a white plastic ring to show he is of the male gender and all are in 3" pot uniforms. Jim and Jane stay in elementary school for 1-2 years. They are disciplined by hard prunings now and then, given tender love and care with liberal amounts of food and water. We have very few delinquents and mortality is very low.

After 2 years they are ready for Jr. High and knowing the energy of this age the teachers "pin their ears back" but good, right from the start, trimming off all wild looking branches, but saving the sturdy trunks. They are put in 6" pots so they have lots of room. Here they stay through High School with more pruning, food and water to make them good responsible citizens by graduation time. Their trunks are straight and sturdy and the persistent discipline of pruning has given them well rounded characters. Needless to say there are few delinquents.

Graduation time means 5 gallon containers as a diploma. Here they are planted with the same selection any college or employer requires. They are beautiful specimens of which the teachers are proud and the principal can recommend any one of them for any job anywhere. They can be moved anytime and are indeed ready for the world of "hard knocks". Their balanced diets have developed sturdy, well formed bodies and boy! the berries on the older dames are something!!!

After these children get out of nursery school they are ready for sale and guaranteed to live, but we strongly recommend the larger ones if you want a specimen holly in a shorter time. Exotic Hollies will delight any one interested in growing things (and who isn't?) Especially for those "who have everything".

Edgar & Louise Diehl

POSSIBLY YOU THINK THE FOREGOING DESCRIPTION IS RATHER "CORNY", AND IF YOU DO IT SIMPLY MEANS THAT WE HAVE HELD YOUR ATTENTION LONG ENOUGH TO TELL YOU OUR METHODS OF GROWING QUALITY HOLLIES.

SURE, WE CAN GROW MUCH TALLER PLANTS IN LESS TIME, BUT THEN WE WILL BE PRODUCING NOTHING BUT AVERAGE STOCK WHICH IS SPINDLY AND NOT WELL SHAPED. WHAT WE TRY TO DO, WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE TIME YOU GIVE US, IS TO PRODUCE PLANTS THAT REQUIRE A MINIMUM OF ATTENTION BY YOU, THE CUSTOMER. WE WANT YOU TO BE JUST AS PROUD OF YOUR HOLLY AS WE ARE. THIS IS THE REASON WHY WE ALWAYS SUGGEST BUYING JUST AS LARGE A PLANT AS YOU FEEL YOU CAN AFFORD. YOUR HOLLY WILL THEN BE WELL BRANCHED AND YOU WILL HAVE A SPECIMEN HOLLY OF MUCH LARGER SIZE IN A MINIMUM OF TIME. AT THE NURSERY WE PRUNE OUR HOLLIES BACK SO HARD THAT WE ONLY ALLOW AN AVERAGE OF ABOUT 4 INCHES OF NEW GROWTH TO REMAIN PER YEAR. THIS MEANS THAT A 6 YEAR PLANT WILL BE ONLY ABOUT 2 FEET TALL BUT IT WILL BE NICELY BRANCHED.

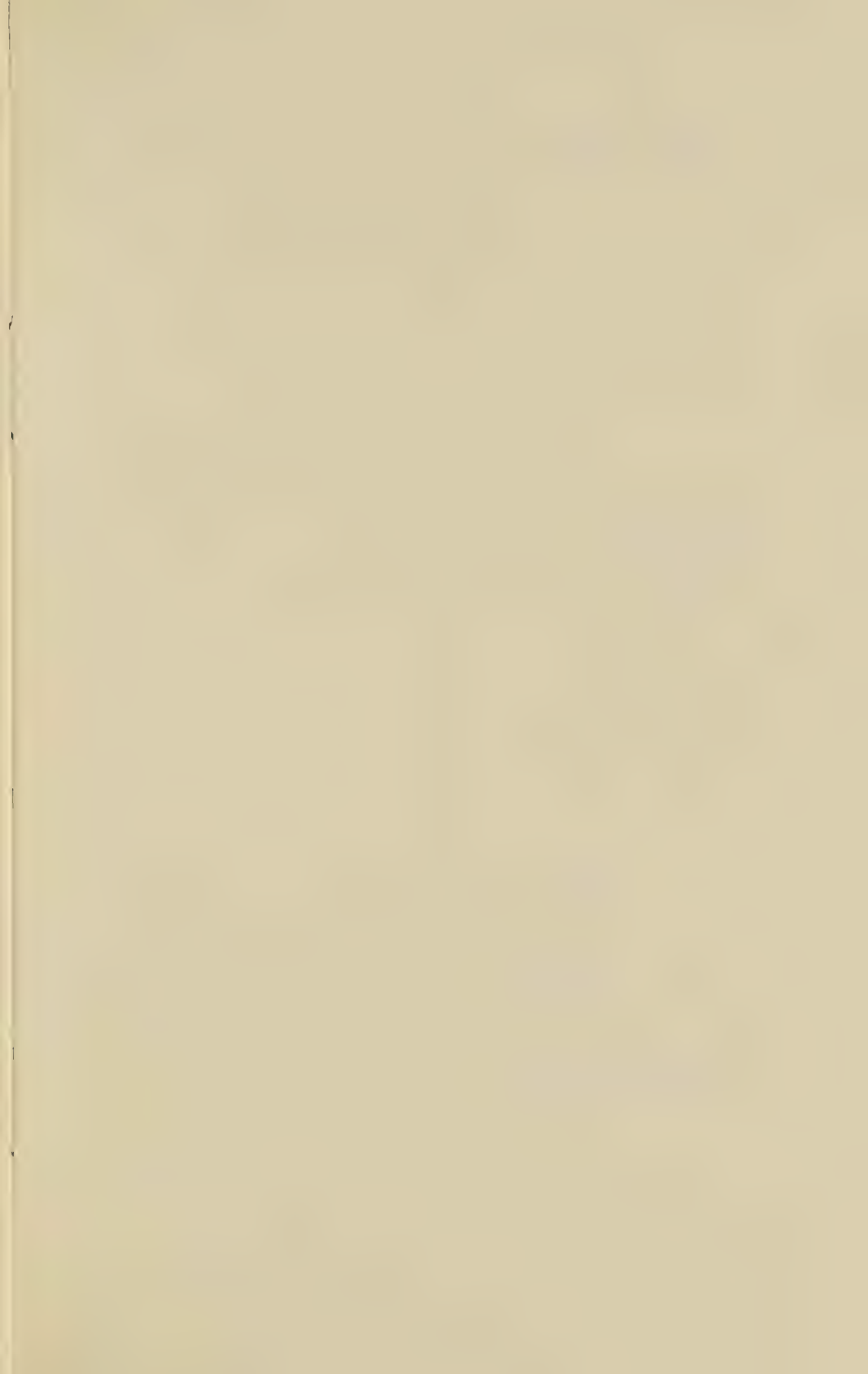
THE AMERICAN HOLLY, ILEX OPACA, IS THE EASIEST TO GROW AND WILL THRIVE IN MUCH COLDER CLIMATES THAN MANY OF THE OTHER VARIETIES. FOR THIS REASON WE HIGHLY RECOMMEND THE USE OF AMERICAN HOLLIES AS YOUR NUMBER ONE PLANTING. YOU CAN BRANCH OUT INTO THE OTHER VARIETIES AS YOU GAIN EXPERIENCE WITH THE EASIER TO GROW AMERICAN HOLLIES.

WE GUARANTEE IN WRITING OUR HOLLIES AS FOLLOWS:

"RETAIL SALES ONLY ARE GUARANTEED FOR 6 MONTHS F. O. B. MANHEIM, PA., EXCLUDING PACKAGING AND SHIPPING CHARGES, EXCEPT ENGLISH HOLLIES OF THE AQUIFOLIUM GROUP. THESE CAN BE GROWN IN FAIRLY COLD AREAS ONCE THEY HAVE GAINED SOME SIZE BUT UNTIL THEN THEY MUST BE GIVEN ADEQUATE PROTECTION".

THE FOLLOWING LISTING OF VARIETIES, SIZES AND PRICES IS NOT ALL INCLUSIVE, BUT LISTS ONLY THOSE HOLLIES THAT WE HAVE IN THE LARGER QUANTITIES. IF YOU SHOULD HAVE A PARTICULAR ITEM THAT YOU ARE TRYING TO OBTAIN AND IT IS NOT LISTED PLEASE ASK US AND IF WE CAN HELP YOU LOCATE IT WE WILL BE VERY HAPPY TO DO SO.

CODE	DESCRIPTION	HEIGHT	SIZE CONTAINER	APPROX. WEIGHT	PREPAID PRICE
A	SMALL	6"-12"	3"	1 #	\$3.00
B	MEDIUM	12"-15"	6"	10#	6.00
C	LARGE	15"-18"	6"	12#	8.00
D	EXTRA LARGE	18"-24"	6"-8"	16#	10.00
E	SPECIMEN	24"-30"	5 GAL	50#	16.00
X	EXTRA-SPCL.	30"-36"	5 GAL	60#	24.00





DESCRIPTION, SIZES AND PRICES OF ENGLISH HOLLIES
(ILEX AQUIFOLIUM)**

- ITEM 1--GREEN MAID--A vigorous growing, graceful female with large very glossy leaves. Holly is green stemmed. Produces large and bright red berries that ripen early. Code A, C, Limited E.
- ITEM 2--GREEN HYBRID FEMALE--One of the most hardy English Hollies we have ever seen. Extra large fruit and large glossy leaves relatively free of spines. Holly can be kept very compact. Highly recommended. Code A, B, E, X.
- ITEM 3--GREEN MALE--Large glossy green leaves. Produces many blooms to pollenate either the green or variegated English holly. Code A, B, C; Limited E, X.
- ITEM 4--ARGENTEA MARGINATA FEMALE--The silver variegated type with spiny leaves edged in silver. Remainder of leaf glossy green. Red berries. Extremely beautiful but requires winter protection. Code A, B, C.
- ITEM 5--AUREA MARGINATA--The golden variegated type. Leaves nearly free of spines. Leaves are large, convex and many are pure gold. Code E Limited.
- ITEM 6--PERNYI MALE--Small, deep green leaves with 5 to 6 spines. An excellent pollinator for any of the English Female Hollies. Code B Limited.
- ITEM 7--FRUCTU-LUTEO (Bertgold) FEMALE--Dark green glossy leaves very spiny. This Holly grows very erect and has yellow berries. Leaves medium size and plant can be kept very compact. Code E Limited.

DESCRIPTION, SIZES AND PRICES OF CHINESE HOLLIES
(ILEX CORNUTA)

- ITEM 8--CORNUTA FEMALE--MANY VARIETIES ARE AVAILABLE. We have selected a dense compact growing female with very glossy leaves and producing large red berries. Leaves large and usually have 5 spines. Ultimate height of tree is about 15 feet with an equal spread. Code A, B.
- ITEM 9--CORNUTA MALE--The most compact and glossy leaved Chinese holly we have ever seen. The plant is a vigorous grower and mate to the above female. Code C, E.
- ITEM 10--BURFORDI--Self Pollenating red berried Holly with red berries that hang on like cherries. This variety seldom has more than a single spine on the tip of the leaf. The Burfordt Holly makes a beautiful hedge. Fruiting will be improved if a Cornuta Male is present. Code C.

DESCRIPTION, SIZES AND PRICES OF AMERICAN HOLLIES
(ILEX OPACA)

ITEM 11-ARDEN FEMALE--A very erect Holly with extra good growth habits and having foliage of good color. Berries inclined to turn yellow then scarlet. An orchard variety; the bright fruits contrasting well with the bronzing foliage for Christmas decorations. Code A, B, E, X.

ITEM 12-CARDINAL FEMALE--Medium sized curved and very spiny leaves of good color. Bright red berries. Recommended where you want to have a compact Holly and maintain a 4 to 6 foot compact plant by regular pruning. Code A, B, C, D, E.

ITEM 13-CLARK FEMALE--A small compact Holly with ascending branches and larger than average bright red berries. The leaves are quite shiny and gracefully formed but do not have pronounced spines. Suggested for hedges, screen plantings or as specimens where space is limited. Code A, B, C.

ITEM 14-LOUISE FEMALE--Rather flat medium sized leaves of excellent color and extremely good berrying habits. Fruit is a brilliant red and of good size. Excellent for cut Holly. Code A, B, C, D.

ITEM 15-GREAT SMOKEY FEMALE--One of the best large leaved Hollies that will maintain good color throughout the entire winter. Large brilliant berries. This Holly matures into a beautiful tree. Code C, D, E.

ITEM 16-MERRY CHRISTMAS FEMALE--Rather large stiff heavy leaves, slightly curved and with midrib depressed. Inclined to take on a bronze coloration in Fall when young but matures into one of the best Hollies when older. Fruit is some of the largest we have ever seen on an American Holly. Code B, C, D, Limited E.

ITEM 17-"OUR CHOICE FEMALE"--We have many Hollies unnamed in addition to the above named varieties. If you are not familiar with the various American Hollies we will select for you a Holly that may or may not be included in the above listing. Your Holly will be selected with the same care as if you picked out the plant yourself. Code A, B, C, D, E, X.

ITEM 18-MALE POLLENIZER--All Male Hollies selected for hardness, color, pollenating and growing habits to make excellent mate for all of above Female plants. Code A, B, C, D, E, X.

A Word About Our Nursery

While it is desirable to have tall stately specimen Holly trees the cost is prohibitive to the average person. The alternate is to secure good stock properly grown of a size that the average family budget can afford. At our nursery we are producing this kind of stock.

We grow nothing else but Hollies which are beautiful broad leafed evergreen trees with definite spines on the leaves and which produce bright red fruit when the weather turns cold. Hollies may be grown successfully over a very wide area if care is taken when planting and winter protection given the less hardy varieties.

American Hollies may be regarded as the hardiest and the Japanese, Chinese, English Green and English Variegated would be less winter hardy in the order named.

We definitely recommend that the less hardy varieties be given winter protection by spraying them with Wilt-Pruf before winter sets in, thus retarding transpiration. This precaution has enabled us to grow the Variegated English even though our temperatures go below zero at the nursery.

The Green Hollies are more resistant to extreme cold than the variegated. It is also true that the

older the tree becomes the less danger of cold weather damage. If partial freeze-back should occur the trees will stage a quick recovery in early spring if proper precautions are taken in late fall to make sure that the Hollies have plenty of water before the ground freezes.

We seldom sell any stock that is less than 5 years of age as we believe that in order to produce a tree that can be successfully grown by the average home owner that this is the minimum requirement. All of our trees are grown from the best cutting stock available. All trees are banded and numbered for identification purposes and are grown outdoors in order to produce trees that will withstand transplanting and cold weather. In order to produce good complete root systems all of our trees are grown in containers which means that when they are delivered to you they can be planted in your yard or garden without fear of losing the tree because the roots have not been disturbed through digging. This method also makes transportation more satisfactory because they can be carried away in your car or packaged by us in a special container for shipment by parcel post or express.

We highly recommend the planting of our Hollies grown in 5 gallon containers. These Hollies may be moved any time of the year since the root ball is sufficiently large to avoid any possible shock due to transplanting.

Planting of Hollies

Your container grown Holly should be planted in well drained ground and will grow almost equally well in any kind of soil, if proper precautions are observed when planting. Holly may be planted outside any time the ground is open but it is generally agreed that the best period is during the dormant season. A potted Holly obtained during the Christmas season should be planted outdoors just as early in the year as the proper hole can be prepared. When kept indoors over winter see page 2 for instructions.

To plant your Hollies always dig the hole 2 feet larger in diameter and 6 inches deeper than the container in which it was grown. To get best results the Holly must be planted in prepared soil consisting of a mixture of half oak leaf mold (or peat moss) and half top soil to which has been added about 3 pounds of Holly-Tone fertilizer mixed right in the soil.

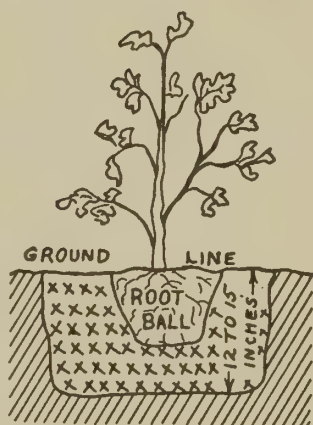
When digging the hole keep the top soil separate from the sub-soil and the sub-soil shall be disgarded since you will add enough leaf-mold or peat moss to supplement the amount that was thrown away.

After the hole has been prepared to the proper size back fill the hole sufficiently with the pre-

pared soil mixture to bring the Holly up to ground level. Water base of hole thoroughly and allow to soak into bottom of hole.

You are now ready to place your plant in the prepared hole. If your Holly is in a metal container make 4 cuts with a tin shears every 90 degrees from top to bottom and bend downward. After a few flexings you will find that the sides will snap off from the base and the entire undisturbed root ball can be placed in the hole.

If your plant is in a clay pot simply break the pot from the root ball by striking it sharply with a hammer and placing the root ball in the previously prepared hole.



Back fill the hole with the previously prepared mixture and tamp firmly, then water thoroughly.

English Hollies may be planted very successfully in partial shade and protected areas. Try to locate them so that they will get a minimum of winter sun. American Hollies prefer bright open sunlight for best growth and color and exposure is not important.

Most people prefer to use the Female or berry producing plants in the more conspicuous locations and plant the male tree in a more isolated spot on the property. It is very desirable to locate several female Hollies so that they will be symmetrical with the front, side or rear of your residence.

Care of Hollies

If you did a good planting job as previously described the battle is practically won insofar as liveability of your Holly is concerned. During the first few years after planting be sure that in the dry summer weather you water thoroughly every week or ten days in about a six foot circle around the tree so that your root system will be expanded rapidly. Do not water just a little every day, when you water do a thorough job.

In order to have your Holly make satisfactory growth it requires food. During the first few years after planting complete organic fertilizer does a grand job. This can be supplemented with small amounts of chicken manure if allowed to leach into the soil. As the tree becomes more mature chemical fertilizers may be used in modest amounts with beneficial results.

Protect your Hollies, when small, from rabbits by placing a wire screen around the trunks.

Rabbits do not eat the Hollies but they delight in sharpening their teeth on the branches and will chew them to bits if given the opportunity.

Hollies have three principle insect pests that attack them, namely Scale, Leaf-Miner, and Red Mite. Scale is controlled by spraying with a dormant oil spray in the spring of the year just as soon as the danger of freezing is over. Leaf-Miner is controlled by spraying with 50% wettable DDT Powder in the spring when the new growth shows 2 or 3 new leaves. The Red Mite can be controlled by spraying with Malathion as required. Complete directions covering concentration of spray will be found on insecticide packages.

Holly Hedges

Hollies may be used very successfully as a hedge, and no plant or tree will do a better job. Hollies planted 24 to 36 inches apart will make the most beautiful hedge imaginable and it may be severely trimmed to keep it low, or it may be allowed to grow to a considerable height and still be a thing of beauty. Hollies planted as a hedge can be trimmed either formally or allowed to grow naturally into a very dense natural looking barrier. Hollies when planted in this manner should be planted in a trench of prepared soil and should be accurately spaced.

Transplanting Large Hollies

If a large Holly is wanted this can be transplanted most successfully if a trench is dug around the tree a year prior to moving. Simply dig the trench the size of the earth ball that you intend to move with the tree and then back fill with good soil rich in humus. Allow the tree to remain in its present location until next year and you will find that the root system has become much denser close to the tree because of the root pruning given it a year ago and the Holly will survive transplanting much more readily.

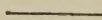
Your Christmas Holly

Your Holly may be pruned in the winter around Christmas. Proper pruning will stimulate spring growth and also give you beautiful cut Holly for the Holidays. Cut Holly should be handled just as you would handle cut flowers. Always place it in water and it will stay beautiful for weeks.

Holly may be used in the making of Christmas wreaths either by itself or in combination with other evergreen material. It may likewise be used to advantage in the making of door garlands in combination with canes, evergreen boughs and brightly colored ribbons.

A Holly apple makes a wonderful ornament for doorways. This is made by selecting a firm red apple and drawing a narrow red ribbon through the core of the apple. Select nicely berried Holly tips about 3 inches long and completely cover the apple by inserting the stems into the apple. Attach a small red bow in combination with mistletoe to the ribbon on the bottom of the apple and hang in the center of the doorway. The juice of the apple will keep the Holly fresh during the Holidays.

We have mentioned only a few of the many possible decorative arrangements in order to show you what can be done with Holly as a Christmas decoration. All of the cut Holly that you can possibly use may be had from your own trees in several years if you decide to plant your trees now.



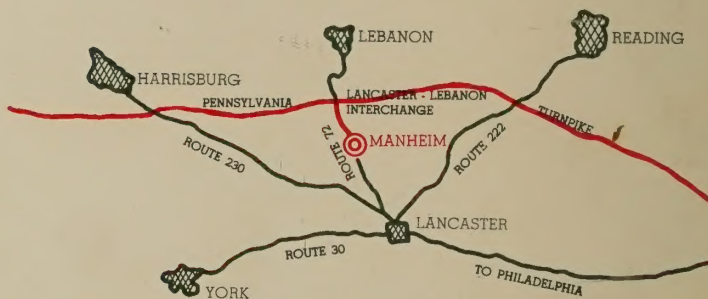
We would suggest that you become affiliated with the
— HOLLY SOCIETY OF AMERICA —

Complete information may be had by writing directly to
Mr. Charles A. Young, Jr.
Holly Society of America, Inc.
Bergner Mansion, Gwynn Falls Park
Baltimore 16, Maryland

The best planting time is between Labor Day and Memorial Day. Nursery open daily and Sunday Afternoons during this period, except Holidays. We ship by Insured Parcel Post or Railroad Express between October First and May First when Hollies are dormant.

For that Sunday Drive

Just 6 Miles from the Pennsylvania Turnpike



Turn west at square 3 blocks to Penn Street. South on Penn Street 1½ blocks to Holly Farms.

PRODUCT OF

Native American Holly Farms

MANHEIM, PA.

Phone: MOhawk 5-2156