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1939

The Beautiful Hollies



Ilex cassine



Ilex cassine angustifolia

THE HOLLIES have been a hobby with us for a number of years and we have spared neither time nor expense in our efforts to assemble the finest collection of varieties obtainable. We now feel we are justified in stating that our collection cannot be surpassed in the nursery trade and we only wish it were possible to convey to our customers the sheer beauty of the many varieties listed below. This is utterly impossible, however, since mere words and photographs cannot do justice to the true beauty of these Aristocrats of the Garden. Our experience has been that all the varieties we offer for sale are hardy in this section and south of us. Of the evergreen species, *ILEX OPACA* (American), *ILEX GLABRA*, and *ILEX AQUIFOLIUM* are hardy as far north as Massachusetts and, also, the *ILEX CRENATAS* if somewhat protected. The Hollies prefer rich, well drained soil, but will adapt themselves to most any soil. The evergreen varieties do well in partial shade. The deciduous Hollies all seem to be perfectly hardy.

***Ilex aquifolium*,**

25-40'—ENGLISH OR EUROPEAN HOLLY

The beautiful gardens of England contain many fine specimens and hedges of the English Holly. It is evergreen, with beautiful spined, shining leaves and bears scarlet berries. It is an ideal lawn specimen and, also, is an excellent hedge plant. Sheared specimens are often tubbed for formal effects. Its foliage closely resembles that of the *Osmanthus aquifolium* with which it is frequently confused. The ability of this plant to withstand the smoke and soot of our towns and cities makes this very ornamental tree valuable for urban planting.

***Ilex cassine*, 20-30'—DAHOON HOLLY**

This Holly is a native of the southern seaboard states, but it is absolutely hardy here. It is a rather open growing evergreen tree with pointed leaves about 2 or 3 inches long. The bright red berries are produced by the thousands and make the tree, when in fruit, one of the most attractive of the species.

***Ilex cassine angustifolia*, 20-30'**

A narrowleaf form of *Ilex cassine* which bears more berries, if possible, than does the parent type.

HOWELL NURSERIES

Boyd's Bridge Road

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KNOXVILLE, TENN.

PLANT HOLLY FOR YEAR



Ilex opaca howardi

ILEX HOWARDI is our preference of the American type. It is a beautiful tree and a prolific bearer of bright berries that persist throughout the winter.

Ilex cassine myrtifolia, 20-30'—MYRTLE-LEAVED HOLLY

This Holly, with leaves both shorter and narrower than the parent form, is also a prolific bearer of berries, and no collection of Dahoon Hollies would be complete unless this variety were included.

Ilex cornuta, 20-35'—CHINESE OR HORNED HOLLY

This Holly hails from the Orient—the land which has contributed so many of our lovely ornamental plants. It is comparatively new, and is, in our opinion, one of the aristocrats of the Holly family. We regard it as a most beautiful addition to our collection as it is strikingly handsome the whole year round. The large leaves, distinctly spined, are a brilliant, shiny green throughout the year. The large, red berries are abundantly borne in heavy clusters.

Ilex cornuta burfordi, 20-25'—BURFORD'S HOLLY

An oriental Holly which is our very own. Introduced with justifiable pride and released with the prophesy that it will soon become recognized as the outstanding ornamental evergreen tree of the age. Thick, deep green, almost spineless leaves are a feast for the eyes at all seasons and, when the very large, deep red berries appear in the fall, mere words cannot describe the superlative beauty of this tree.

Ilex crenata, 8-10'—JAPANESE HOLLY

Hailing from far away Japan, this Holly has proved to be indispensable for the better type of planting. Its oval, dark green, glossy leaves closely resemble those of the Boxwood, and the plant is equally reliable. It is an ideal plant for foundation plantings, for grouping in masses, and for hedging. Unlike all the varieties described above, this Holly bears rather inconspicuous blue-black berries. Ask any experienced plantsman to name three of the best broadleaved evergreens for foundation planting, and we wager that this Holly will head the list.



Ilex cornuta



Ilex cassine myrtifolia

AR 'ROUND BEAUTY



Ilex crenata rotundifolia, 8-10'

Larger, rounder leaves distinguish this plant from the *Ilex crenata*. Some prefer it to the small-leaf type.

Ilex decidua (fraseri), 12-15'—IMPROVED POSSUMHAW

A deciduous Holly which loses its leaves in the early Fall, but what a berry bearer! This little tree, with its spreading branches, does not need leaves in the winter, for it is absolutely studded with bright scarlet berries until the leaves again appear in the Spring.

Ilex glabra, 5-6'—INKBERRY, WINTERBERRY

This Holly is a native of our eastern states, making its habitat from Massachusetts to Florida, and is one of the hardiest members of the family. It is a much branched, upright evergreen shrub with most pleasing foliage which turns a metallic-purple in the fall. Reflected in the sunlight, its jewel-like black berries present a pleasing picture.

Ilex latifolia, 30-40'

This Holly has large, glossy evergreen leaves with serrated edges. The red fruit is produced in clusters. It is a beautiful plant and a rather unusual member of the Holly family as it lacks many of the characteristic traits.

Ilex monticola, 30-40'

The Monticola is another Holly native to our own mountains and is a distinctive member of the *Ilex* family. It is deciduous, also, and bears beautiful red berries throughout the winter season.



Ilex cornuta burfordi

ILEX BURFORDI is probably the most striking introduction of the age and must be seen to be properly appreciated.



Ilex decidua (fraseri)



Ilex vomitoria



Ilex Hume No. 2

***Ilex opaca*, 35-50'—AMERICAN HOLLY**

This is the Holly that everyone thinks of when Christmas wreaths or decorations are suggested. Its evergreen branches with dull red berries are used throughout the country to make homes festive for the Yuletide season. It is a stately tree with short, spreading branches and will thrive in almost any soil. Some people are taking advantage of its rugged hardiness and are planting this Holly in large quantities on waste land for the purpose of selling the foliage and berries on the city markets. Our stock is grown from selected plants.

***Ilex opaca East Palatka*, 10-15'**

A variety of garden origin, produced by crossing the Dahoon and the American Hollies. Its evergreen leaves are practically spinless. Its deep red berries are borne in heavy clusters, ripen a month or so before those of other varieties of the American Holly, and persist on the trees until spring. It is a truly distinctive and beautiful addition to a distinctive and beautiful family.

***Ilex opaca howardi*, 30-40'**

A distinctive type of the American Holly bearing deeper and darker green foliage than other varieties of the Opaca group. A heavy bearer of deep red berries produced in abundant clusters. The rich, shiny leaves of this variety are practically without spines.

***Ilex opaca Hume No. 2*, 30-40'**

Another cross between the American and the Dahoon Hollies. This variety is a stronger and a more vigorous grower than East Palatka and makes a larger tree. Its berries are not so bright, however, as are those of the East Palatka. It rivals the American Holly in vigor and in its growing habits, and, for that reason, we include it in this list of Garden Aristocrats.

***Ilex perneyi*, 6-10'**

Here again the seeker for the unusual should take note. This small evergreen of compact habit is absolutely new and very interesting. It has beautiful little leaves, heavily spined, of attractive form and excellent color. The berries are red. It is worthy of trial by anyone interested in Hollies.

Ilex perneyi veitchi

This Holly, we believe, will also prove to be valuable. It, too, is of recent introduction. It differs from *Ilex perneyi* in that it has larger leaves and is probably a stronger grower. We are happy to be among the first to introduce both *Ilex perneyi* and *Ilex perneyi veitchi* to the plant-loving public.

***Ilex sieboldi*, 12-15'**

This well-known, distinctive plant with its numerous red berries has proved to be very satisfactory. Its small leaves are deciduous.

***Ilex verticillata*, 8-10'—BLACK ALDER, WINTERBERRY**

The bright red berries are borne in abundance and remain on the spreading branches until spring. This is a beautiful plant and is one of the best of the deciduous Hollies. It is hardy from Canada to Florida.

***Ilex vomitoria*, 18-20'—YAUPON HOLLY OF THE SOUTH**

The Yaupon Holly will please the most exacting person. It is good used in clumps, as a screen, in a hedge, or as an individual specimen. It bears myriads of transparent, bright red berries in the early fall, and the evergreen, grayish foliage produced on silvery stems is pleasing throughout the year.



Ilex opaca



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