



## Species: *Ilex x meserveae*

(eye'leks me-serv'eye-ee)

Blue Holly; Meserve Hybrid Holly

### Cultivar Information

Blue Hollies are created from hybridizing other hollies together. Some are *I. rugosa* x *I. aquifolium* hybrids; some *I. cornuta* x *I. rugosa* hybrids; some are other hybrid altogether. Cultivars vary depending on habit, quantity/quality/color of fruit, and cold-hardiness.

\* See specific cultivar notes on next page.

### Ornamental Characteristics

Size: Shrub 4 to 8 feet

Height: 8' (spread 8' - varies with cultivars)

Leaves: Evergreen

Shape:

Ornamental Other: tolerates cold temperatures

### Environmental Characteristics

Light: Full sun, Part shade, Shade

Hardy To Zone: 5a

Soil Ph: Can tolerate acid to alkaline soil (pH 5.0 to 8.0)

Environmental Other: dioecious broad-leaved evergreen; best red berries occur when in full sun; glossy, dark green to blue-green foliage

### Insect Disease

relatively trouble-free

## Bare Root Transplanting

Any

## Other

hybrid of *Ilex rugosa* x *Ilex aquifolium*; not deer resistantCultivars for *Ilex x meserveae*Showing **1-15** of **15** items.

Cultivar Name	Notes
Blue Angel	'Blue Angel' - full and dense habit; slow-growing; least cold hardy of the group; large, crinkled leaves; female clone; shiny red fruits; grows to 8' tall and wide
Blue Boy	'Blue Boy' - male clone; grows over 10' tall; lustrous green foliage; good pollinator for 'Blue Girl'
Blue Girl	'Blue Girl' - pyramidal habit; female clone; red fruit; good cold hardiness; more open than 'Blue Princess'; grows to 8' tall
Blue Maid	'Blue Maid' (a.k.a. 'Mesid') - pyramidal habit; hardy; fast growing; female clone; grows to 15' tall; abundant bright red fruit
Blue Prince	'Blue Prince' - male clone; dense, compact habit; grows to 12' tall; dark shiny green foliage; an excellent pollinator for Meserve Hollies; extremely cold hardy
Blue Princess	'Blue Princess' - female clone; very shiny dark blue-green; dark red abundant fruit; particularly cold hardy; broad, shrubby habit; grows to 15' tall
Honey Maid	'Honey Maid' - female clone; foliage variegated with yellow margins; grows to 6' tall; red fruits; more cold hardy than other variegated hollies
Gretchen	'Gretchen' - female clone; yellow variegated foliage; grows to 6' tall; red fruit; like 'Honey Maid', more cold hardy than other variegated hollies
Blue Stallion	Blue Stallion (a.k.a. 'Mesan') - male clone; long blooming period, serves as an effective pollinator; grows more rapidly than 'Blue Prince'; grows to 12' tall and wide; purplish stems; foliage lacks prominent spines and is a dark, shiny green
China Boy	'China Boy' (a.k.a. 'Mesdob') - male clone; particularly cold hardy; useful pollinator for 'China Girl'; foliage glossy green; grows to 10' tall and wide; rounded, dense habit; "China Series" appears to be both more heat and cold tolerant than the <i>I. rugosa</i> x <i>I. aquifolium</i> hybrids, "Blue Series"
China Girl	'China Girl' (a.k.a. 'Mesog') - female clone; pollinated by 'China Boy'; features abundant 1/3" red fruit; grows to 10' tall and wide shrub; leaf margins of this selection and its male counterpart turn under, leading to a "cupping" effect

Cultivar Name	Notes
Dragon Lady	'Dragon Lady' (a.k.a. 'Meschick') - hybrid of <i>I. pernyi</i> x <i>I. aquifolium</i> ; strong pyramidal-columnar habit; grows to 20' tall with a 6' spread; spiny, dark green foliage; red fruit; pollinate with 'Blue Stallion'
Golden Girl	'Golden Girl' (a.k.a. 'Mesgolg') - yellow-orange fruit; broad pyramidal habit; dense foliage
Little Rascal	A.K.A. Mondo. Extra dwarf, slow growing mutation of Blue Holly. Maximum height 24"
Sallywag	A.K.A. MonNieves. An upright sport of Little Rascal. Still dwarf but more upright growing male.

## Photos



Ilex x meserveae - Fruit



Ilex x meserveae - Fruit, Leaves



Ilex x meserveae - Leaves



Ilex x meserveae - Flower



*Ilex x meserveae* - Habit



*Ilex x meserveae* - Habit



Ilex x meserveae - Flowers



Ilex x meserveae - Leaves



Ilex x meserveae - Bark