



Species: *Ilex opaca*

(eye'leks oh-pay'kah)

American Holly

Cultivar Information

This species has over 300 cultivars and varieties

* See specific cultivar notes on next page.

Ornamental Characteristics

Size: Tree > 30 feet

Height: 40' - 50' ht (spread 18' - 40')

Leaves: Evergreen

Shape: dense and pyramidal

Ornamental Other: full sun to part-shade (best fruit and dense habit in full sun); protect from desiccation in winter sun and wind

Environmental Characteristics

Light: Full sun, Part shade

Hardy To Zone: 6a

Soil Ph: Can tolerate acid to neutral soil (pH 5.0 to 7.4)

Environmental Other: dioecious evergreen; leaves are dark green and spiny, (dull or lustrous depending on cultivar); red fruit often persist into winter

Insect Disease

many diseases; leaf miner is the most serious; also problematic are scale, leaf-spot, tar-spot

Bare Root Transplanting

Any

Other

native to eastern U.S.; slow-growing; for female fruiting male plants must be located nearby ;
transplant B&B or from container in spring

Cultivars for *Ilex opaca*

Showing **1-15** of **15** items.

Cultivar Name	Notes
Amy	'Amy'- (large leaves and abundant fruit
Cardinal	'Cardinal'- (compact; heavy fruiting
Croonenburg	'Croonenburg' - glossy leaves; monoecious
Dan Fenton	'Dan Fenton' - dark, glossy leaves
Jersey Delight	'Jersey Delight' - glossy foliage; red-orange fruit
Miss Helen	'Miss Helen' - dark green leaves; glossy dark red berries
Old Heavy Berry	'Old Heavy Berry' - vigorous; very winter hardy
Maryland Dwarf	'Maryland Dwarf' dwarf-spreading habit, grows to 3' tall and spreads to as much as 10' wide
f. xanthocarpa	f. xanthocarpa - yellow fruiting form of this species; some cultivars exist, 'Canary' is a good example
Canary	'Canary' - cultivar of f. xanthocarpa; yellow fruiting
Clarendon	'Clarendon' (a.k.a. 'Clarendon Spreading') - dwarf, shrubby form reaching 8' tall and much wider; glossy olive-colored foliage; orange-red berries
Howard	'Howard' - older cultivar; nearly spineless, dark green leaves; abundant red fruit; columnar and dense habit
Jersey Knight	'Jersey Knight' - male form; dark green foliage; a good pollinator
Jersey Princess	'Jersey Princess' - widely considered one of the finest fruiting cultivars; holds its lustrous green leaf color and bright red fruit well into winter; one of the more common commercial cultivars
Steward's Silver Crown	'Steward's Silver Crown' - hardy variegated plant, bears leaves edged with cream; red fruit; grows to 20' tall

Photos



Ilex opaca - Leaves, Fruit



Ilex opaca - Leaves, Fruit



Ilex opaca - Habit



Ilex opaca - Habit



Ilex opaca - Habit



Ilex opaca - Fruit



Ilex opaca - Leaves, Fruit



Ilex opaca - Habit



Ilex opaca - Bark