

# Hollies

## Types of Holly

Within the Holly (*Ilex*) family there are many species, both evergreen and deciduous. To ensure berry production, male and female plants need to be present. One male plant is capable of pollinating 4-6 females as far as a 1/4 mile radius.

### Blue or Meserveae Holly

(*Ilex x meserveae*) is a medium sized broadleaf evergreen shrub with dark, waxy blue-green foliage and attractive berries on the female plant. These hollies are often used as hedges or foundation shrubs.

### Winterberry Holly

(*Ilex verticillata*) is one of the best native deciduous shrubs for fall and winter fruit. These hollies thrive in wet areas, and tolerate sun or shade. Their berry laden stems are outstanding in winter, plus provide food for many varieties of birds.

### Inkberry Holly

(*Ilex glabra*) is a broadleaf evergreen shrub with an attractive upright, oval growth habit and bright green lustrous foliage. Its berries are a deep purple-black and less significant than other holly varieties and does not require a pollinator. It is one of the few evergreen shrubs that can thrive in a wet site.

## Culture

### Location

Evergreen hollies do best in full sun or partial shade. Avoid areas where they may be subject to drying winter winds. Winterberry deciduous holly can be planted in sun or partial shade. Best fruit production will be in a sunny site.

### Soil Preparation

Hollies prefer moist, well-drained, acidic soils. Prepare soil with 1/3 topsoil to 2/3 Stauffers Planting Mix. Fertilize with Holly-tone in spring and fall.

### Pruning

Next year's flower buds on Blue Hollies and Winterberry are set on the current season's growth by late June. Pruning after this time will remove next year's flowers and therefore berries. Inkberry Holly tolerates light to moderate shearing, this will promote a more compact habit.

## Cultures cont'd

### Mulching

Mulch with a 3" layer of shredded mulch to maintain soil temperature and preserve moisture.

### Watering

Make sure all your newly planted hollies receive at least 1" of water per week until the ground freezes.

# Hollies

Name	Size Maintained	Size Mature	Pollinator
China Girl	3'-4' x 3'-4'	8'-10' x 8'-10'	China Boy
China Boy	3'-4' x 3'-4'	8'-10' x 8'-10'	
American Female	8'-10' x 6'-8'	8'-10' x 6'-8'	American Male
American Male	8'-10' x 6'-8'	8'-10' x 6'-8'	
Blue Prince	4'-5' x 4'-5'	8' x 12'	
Blue Angel	4'-5' x 4'-5'	8' x 8'	Blue Boy, Prince, or Stallion
Blue Princess	4'-5' x 4'-5'	8' x 12'	
Blue Stallion	5'-6' x 5'-6'	10'-15' x 10'-15'	
Blue Maid	5'-6' x 4'-5'	10'-15' x 10'-15'	Blue Boy, Prince, or Stallion
Dragon Lady	8'-10' x 4'-6'	15' x 6'	
Nellie Stevens	8'-10' x 6'-8'	15'-20' x 8'-10'	Self Pollinator
Variegated English	5'-6' x 5'-6'	10'-12' x 10'-12'	English Male
English Male	5'-6' x 5'-6'	10'-12' x 10'-12'	