


Hollies found throughout the Arboretum

The following outstanding hollies can be found elsewhere on campus. The location of each holly is given with its description.

***Ilex x attenuata* 'Longwood Gold'** (hybrid holly) The dark green leaf color does not fade in the winter months. This cultivar has showy, abundant gold fruit. Reaches a height of 30'. Recommended pollinator: *I. opaca* 'Jersey Knight'
West side of Hicks Hall

***Ilex x attenuata* 'Foster #2'** (Foster holly) This cultivar has elliptical, dark green leaves. It is a small tree and displays abundant, vivid red fruit. Recommended pollinator: *I. opaca* 'Jersey Knight'
South side of the Lang Performing Arts Center

 ***Ilex glabra* 'Densa'** This cultivar forms an upright, rounded shrub that will reach 8'-10' at maturity. Its small leathery, dark green leaves are evergreen. Not grown for its fruit. Gold Medal Plant Garden



I. glabra 'Densa'


***Ilex glabra* 'Shamrock'**
'Shamrock' has an upright compact, rounded habit. Its leaves are dark olive-green turning to bronze in winter. It reaches 3'-4' tall and wide and is not grown for its fruit. Pollinator Garden

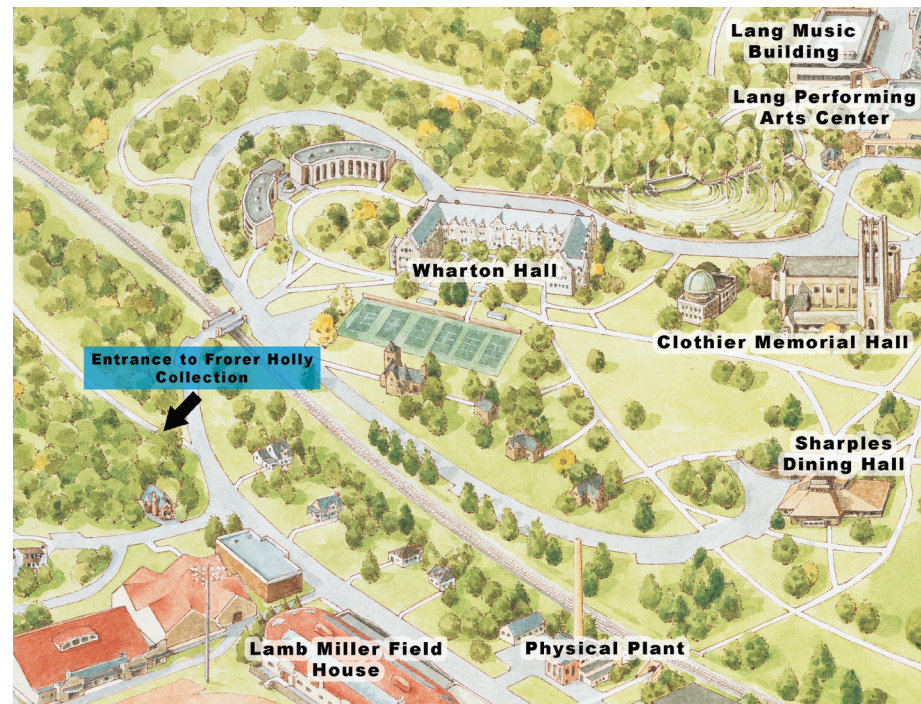
***Ilex opaca* 'John Wister'** A male American holly, this cultivar reaches up to 50' tall. The leaves are a glossy, dark green. 'John Wister' was named at the Scott Arboretum in honor of the Arboretum's first director and for its superior foliage. This is a male cultivar and thus does not set fruit. Also pollinates *I. x attenuata*.
South side of Sharples Dining Hall



I. verticillata 'Winter Gold'

 ***Ilex verticillata* 'Winter Gold'** (winterberry) A sport of 'Winter Red', this deciduous shrub displays abundant orange-yellow fruit through the winter season. Cut branches make excellent decorations. Grows 8' tall. Recommended pollinator: *I. verticillata* 'Southern Gentleman' Gold Medal Plant Garden

 ***Ilex verticillata* 'Winter Red'** (winterberry) An 8' tall deciduous shrub, this cultivar retains bright red fruit through the winter and is particularly showy after its leaves have dropped. Cut branches also make attractive decorations (cover photo). Recommended pollinator: *I. verticillata* 'Southern Gentleman' Metasequoia Allée



About the Scott Arboretum


The Scott Arboretum is a green oasis uniquely situated on the Swarthmore College campus. Over 300 acres create the College landscape and provide a display of the best ornamental plants recommended for Delaware Valley gardens.

Established in 1929 as a living memorial to Arthur Hoyt Scott, Class of 1895, through a gift from his family, the Arboretum continues to thrive today. There are over 4,000 different kinds of plants grown on the campus, selected for their outstanding ornamental qualities, ease of maintenance, and resistance to disease. Major plant collections include: flowering cherries, crabapples, hollies, lilacs, magnolias, tree peonies, rhododendrons, hydrangeas, conifers, vines, summer flowering shrubs, viburnums, and witchhazels.

Maps and specialized brochures on plants growing on the campus are available at the Arboretum office, which also houses a horticultural reference library. The Arboretum is open from dawn to dusk year-round. Admission is free.

The Arboretum is supported in part by the Associates of the Scott Arboretum, a membership group. Join today and enjoy an array of fun and educational events year-round. For additional information, call 610-328-8025, Monday through Friday, 8:30 to noon and 1:00 to 4:30.

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 THE SCOTT ARBORETUM
OF SWARTHMORE COLLEGE
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Holly Collection



 THE SCOTT ARBORETUM
OF SWARTHMORE COLLEGE

Hollies at the Scott Arboretum

The Scott Arboretum's Holly Collection is one of the premier holly collections in the country and contains over 350 different species, cultivars, and hybrids. The Scott Arboretum has been designated a National Holly Arboretum by the Holly Society of America. To maintain this status, the collection is evaluated each year for winter hardiness. The assembly of hollies is also recognized as a North American Plant Collections Consortium (NAPCC) Collection.



James R. Frorer Holly Collection

The James R. Frorer Holly Collection, located on the bank of Crum Creek, was donated in 1974 by James R. Frorer, Swarthmore Class of 1915. Frorer provided funds for moving 450 hollies from his property in Delaware to Swarthmore, along

with an endowment fund for their future maintenance. As each plant was transferred, the nomenclature was verified by Theodore R. Dudley, Ph. D., from the U.S. National Arboretum, and the world's leading holly taxonomist at the time. After the move, the collection was irrigated by water pumped from Crum Creek, but has not been irrigated since. This endowed collection is considered part of the larger Arboretum Holly Collection.

Cultural Information

Hollies possess many characteristics that make them outstanding ornamental plants such as varying leaf size; red, orange, yellow, black, or white fruit color; cultural adaptability; and growth habits ranging from small shrub to large tree. There are evergreen and deciduous types.

In general, hollies are undemanding in their cultural requirements. Most, however, prefer to be planted in moist, acid, well-drained soil in full sun to partial shade. This is particularly true for the evergreen types. Because their leaves transpire year-round, it is important they go into the winter with an adequate water supply (which may mean, depending on natural rainfall, supplemental watering in the fall). Less hardy varieties should have adequate protection from winter sun and wind to prevent desiccation. Planting or transplanting of evergreen hollies is best done in the spring to ensure adequate root growth before winter.

Once established, hollies require little maintenance other than pruning and fertilizing. Except when used as hedges, they should only be pruned to accentuate their naturally graceful forms. In youth, some varieties may have to be trained to a single leader to produce a more tree-like habit. Most hollies are heavy feeders and benefit from an application of high nitrogen fertilizer in the spring.



Holly flowers: female (left) and male with pollen (right)

All hollies are dioecious; that is, the male and female flowers are produced on separate plants. Both are necessary to produce fruit, borne only on the "female" plant. When applicable, this brochure indicates suggested male pollinators for each species.



This symbol indicates a plant that has received the Gold Medal Plant Award from the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, which recognizes trees, shrubs, and woody vines of outstanding merit based on disease and pest resistance, ease of growing, and beauty in many seasons.

Highlighted Species & Selections

The Frorer Holly Collection is situated on a south-facing slope. It is bordered by woodland above and the Crum Creek below. *Ilex x koehneana* is located at the opening into the hollies from the woods. Along the top of the hill, *Ilex aquifolium* cultivars are planted. A few *Ilex x attenuata* cultivars can be found on both the uphill and downhill sections of the collection. Selections of *Ilex opaca*, the largest species represented in the collection, are scattered throughout the hillside. Described here are some hollies found in this collection with outstanding growth in the Delaware Valley:

Ilex aquifolium (English holly) This is a 30' tall evergreen tree with glossy, dark green foliage. It has fragrant white flowers and is noted for its colorful clusters of fruit. It may require winter protection in the Delaware Valley. Recommended pollinator: *I. x meserveae* Blue Stallion®



I. aquifolium 'Peters'

***Ilex aquifolium* 'Peters'**

Growing 20' tall, this specimen's light green new growth turns dark green with 2-7 spines on each leaf. The vivid red fruit forms in pear-shaped clusters along the stems. Recommended pollinator: *I. x meserveae* Blue Stallion®

Ilex cornuta (Chinese holly) This is a dense, rounded evergreen shrub, with lustrous olive-green leaves. The fruits are typically red. The bark and very spiny leaves are used in herbal medicine as a treatment for kidney disease. It grows 8'-15' tall and wide. This species is parthenocarpic, meaning it sets fruit without a pollinator.



I. cornuta 'Dwarf Burford'

***Ilex cornuta* 'Dwarf Burford'**

This cultivar has a compact, dense growing habit, its lighter green leaves have smooth margins and a single point at the tip. It grows 4'-6' tall and wide. This plant displays vivid red fruit and is parthenocarpic, meaning it sets fruit without a pollinator.

Ilex crenata (Japanese holly) A small-leaved evergreen shrub. This black-fruited holly is useful for foundation plantings, hedges, and masses. It is not grown for its fruit.

Ilex x koehneana (Koehne holly)

A hybrid between *I. aquifolium* and *I. latifolia*, this evergreen tree will grow to 35' tall. Its elliptical-shaped leaves are 4"-6" long, providing a nice background for the red fruit. Recommended pollinator: *I. x meserveae* Blue Stallion®



I. x koehneana

Ilex opaca (American holly)

This holly is native to eastern North America and can grow upwards of 60 feet. This is one of the hardiest of the evergreen hollies. The non-glossy leaves range from dull to dark yellow- or olive-green. The fruit is typically red, but some cultivars display yellow or orange fruit. There are over 90 different cultivars represented in our collection. Superior cultivars include: 'Old Heavy Berry', 'Jersey Princess', and 'Satyr Hill'. Recommended pollinator: *I. opaca* 'John Wister' or *I. opaca* 'Jersey Knight'



I. pedunculosa

Ilex pedunculosa (longstalk holly)

This species will grow into a small tree or large shrub, about 30' tall. It is an evergreen holly with undulating, spineless, lustrous green leaves. In the winter, exposed leaves will take on a yellowish-green cast. Its bright red fruits dangle in clusters at the ends of branches. Recommended pollinator: *I. pedunculosa* 'Stevens'