Red Beauty Holly

Ilex 'Rutzan'

Height: 10 feet

Spread: 5 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4

Description:

This handsome shrub has a dense, tidy, pyramidal habit that is excellent for screening; requires male pollinator to set fruit; splendid glossy green leaves and abundant red fruit in winter make this a great addition to the landscape

Ornamental Features

Red Beauty Holly is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. It features an abundance of magnificent red berries from late fall to mid winter. It has attractive dark green evergreen foliage which emerges brick red in spring. The glossy oval leaves are highly ornamental and remain dark green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Red Beauty Holly is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a distinctive and refined pyramidal form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds and bees to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Red Beauty Holly is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens



Red Beauty Holly fruit
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Red Beauty Holly
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Red Beauty Holly will grow to be about 10 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 5 feet. It has a low canopy, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more. This variety requires a different selection of the same species growing nearby in order to set fruit.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is particular about its soil conditions, with a strong preference for rich, acidic soils. It is quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.



Red Beauty Holly foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder