Nasa Holly

Ilex x attenuata 'Nasa'



Nasa Holly
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 7 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 6

Description:

A dwarf, pyramidal evergreen that can be massed as a screen or maintained as a low hedge; interesting spineless foliage is dark olive green and narrowly oval in shape; showy red berries in fall and winter; needs male pollinator

Ornamental Features

Nasa Holly is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. It features an abundance of magnificent red berries from late fall to late winter. It has attractive olive green evergreen foliage. The small glossy narrow leaves are highly ornamental and remain olive green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Nasa 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 to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Nasa Holly is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use

Planting & Growing

Nasa Holly will grow to be about 7 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more. This is a female variety of the species which requires a male selection of the same species growing nearby in order to set fruit.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have sandy, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils, and is able to handle environmental salt. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. 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.