Christmas Holly Flowering Crab

Malus 'Christmas Holly'



Christmas Holly Flowering Crab in bloom
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 30 feet

Spread: 30 feet

Sunlight:

Hardiness Zone: 4

Other Names: Roseybloom, Crabapple

Description:

A vigorous and strong grower with showy white flowers and a well balanced branching habit; persistent bright red fruit remains effective through December for winter interest, a striking ornamental tree; slight susceptibility to scab and fireblight

Ornamental Features

Christmas Holly Flowering Crab is bathed in stunning clusters of fragrant white flowers with pink streaks along the branches in mid spring, which emerge from distinctive red flower buds before the leaves. The fruits are showy red pomes carried in abundance from early to late fall. It has dark green deciduous foliage. The pointy leaves turn yellow in fall.

Landscape Attributes

Christmas Holly Flowering Crab is a deciduous tree with an upright spreading habit of growth. 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 tree will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, 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. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Disease



Christmas Holly Flowering Crab flowers
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Christmas Holly Flowering Crab is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Shade

Planting & Growing

Christmas Holly Flowering Crab will grow to be about 30 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 30 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 5 feet from the ground, 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 tree should only be grown in full sunlight. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil type or pH. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.