



Lassie Holly

Ilex x koehneana 'Lassie'

Height: 25 feet

Spread: 15 feet

Sunlight: ○ ●

Hardiness Zone: 6a

Other Names: Koehne Holly

Description:

Lustrous dark green, evergreen foliage with spiny edges; brilliant scarlet fruit adds color to the fall and winter landscape; does best in evenly moist, acidic soil, an excellent screening plant

Ornamental Features

Lassie Holly is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. It features an abundance of magnificent scarlet berries from early fall to mid winter. It has attractive dark green evergreen foliage. The spiny oval leaves are highly ornamental and remain dark green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Lassie Holly is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen tree 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 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 and bees to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Lassie Holly is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens



Lassie Holly
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Lassie Holly foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Lassie Holly will grow to be about 25 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 15 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 2 feet from the ground, and should not be planted underneath power lines. It grows at a fast 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 tree does best in full sun to partial shade. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth. It is particular about its soil conditions, with a strong preference for rich, acidic soils. It is somewhat tolerant of urban pollution, 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.