

PLANTING FIELDS ARBORETUM
Oyster Bay, NY USDA Hardiness Zone 7A

In 2013 we had a cold winter with above average snowfall. Spring and early summer brought us average temperatures and average rainfall; however, late summer into fall provided us with drought conditions. This had some effect on our fruit production. Due to the below average temperatures during the winter we will probably experience some dieback in the spring.

According to our records we lost the following hollies:

- *Ilex integra* 'Green Shadow'
- *I. × meserveae* 'Blue Angel' (2)
- *I. crenata* 'Hetzii'

However, we added the following hollies:

- *I. ×* 'Malcolm S. Whipple'
- *I. × meserveae* 'Blue Angel' (3)
- *I. verticillata* 'Goldfinch' (3)
- *I. crenata* 'Hetzii'
- *I. verticillata* 'Jim Dandy' (2)
- *I. verticillata* 'Southern Gentleman' (2)
- *I. verticillata* 'Winter Red' (3)

Our planting of *I. ×* 'Mary Nell' as a privacy hedge continues to grow well and is putting on a lot of growth. *I. crenata* 'Sky Pencil' has always been a great plant in our landscape with no problems and *I. verticillata* cultivars are doing very well with good fruit production – if we could keep the birds away! We planted *I.* 'Whoa Nellie' in the Synoptic Garden a few years back and it is now showing its just rewards. The holly provides a beacon that invites our patrons to continue into the Garden. *Ilex pedunculosa* has been a challenging plant for us. The leaves always appear yellow and grow at a very slow rate. We believe there is a nutrient deficiency in the soil and/or a pH problem and we are in the process of amending it.

Kenneth Provenzano, Plant Curator