

TYLER ARBORETUM

515 Painter Road, Media, Pennsylvania USDA Hardiness Zone 6

2011 was a year of unusual weather. We had record snowfalls in the Philadelphia region in the 2010–11 winter. July was the hottest on record, with most days reaching over 90 °F (32.2 °C). Then heavy rain and milder temperatures finished the summer, and August set a record for rain in any one month. Hurricane Irene poured 6 in. (15 cm) of rain in 24 hours. The rest of the summer and fall had quite mild temperatures. There was only one significant snow, in October, with November and December being warmer than usual.

Additions: 76 *Ilex* plants (representing 7 taxa) were added to the collection in 2011:

- 3 *I. crenata* ‘Drops of Gold’*
- 1 *I. crenata* ‘Soft Touch’*
- 9 *I. glabra* ‘Densa’*
- 35 *I. × meserveae* ‘Mesdob’ China Girl™ *
- 10 *I. × meserveae* ‘Mesdob’ China Boy™ *
- 15 *I. verticillata* ‘Winter Red’
- 3 *I. verticillata* ‘Southern Gentleman’

(* = taxa new to the collection)

No *Ilex* were removed from the collection in 2011.

Total number of *Ilex* accessions = 585

Total number of *Ilex* taxa = 148

I. verticillata ‘Winter Red’ continues to be an excellent plant holding fruit through the winter. *I. serrata* ‘Sundrops’ puts on a short but spectacular show with its small yellow fruit. We have no ongoing or new research to report. The *Ilex* collection grows well at Tyler Arboretum. It receives regular maintenance and no supplemental irrigation.

Hollies of the Year:

2003: *I. opaca* ‘Satyr Hill’ – Good specimen with single leader; particularly good medium-green foliage; no winter problems.

2004: *I. crenata* ‘Sky Pencil’ – not present in the collection

2005: *I. × koehneana* ‘Lassie’ – Excellent plant with branches and foliage to the ground; good medium green, glossy foliage; good fruiting, some still evident at end of March; no die-back or foliar burn.

2006: *I. × attenuata* ‘Sunny Foster’ – Tyler’s specimens have lost their variegation; therefore, they are no longer true to type. Branching is thin on the shaded side of both plants.

2007: *I. aquifolium* ‘Lewis’ – Excellent pyramidal form with branches and foliage to the ground; beautiful, lustrous dark green foliage; fruit not bountiful; no winter kill, dieback or foliar burn.

2008: *I. verticillata* ‘Maryland Beauty’ – not present in the collection

2009: *I.* ‘Scepter’ – not present in the collection

2010: *I. verticillata* ‘Red Sprite’ – Tyler’s plants are naturalized in a semi-wild area of the garden.

Alison Dame (Plant Recorder)

This report should have been included in the printed copy of the 2012 Journal. I apologize for the error.

Emily Jernigan, Editor.