

## CLARK-LANDSBAUM DEMING PARK HOLLY ARBORETUM

Terre Haute, Indiana USDA Hardiness Zone 5b

After three years of drought, 2014 had a very cold winter. January, February, and March were much colder than normal. There were seven below 0 °F (-17.8 °C) days. The coldest was -13 °F (-25 °C) with a wind chill of -35 °F (-37.2 °C). The annual precipitation for the year was 43.05 inches (109 cm) and 44.74 inches (114 cm) is normal.

### The following hollies died:

*Ilex crenata* 'Beehive'  
*I. crenata* 'Black Beauty' (three plants)  
*I. crenata* 'Buxifolia'  
*I. crenata* 'Cherokee'  
*I. crenata* 'Convexa'  
*I. crenata* 'Green Dragon'  
*I. crenata* 'Hayden'  
*I. crenata* 'Northern Beauty'  
*I. crenata* 'Sentinel' (three plants)  
*I. glabra* 'Densa'  
*I. opaca* 'Autumn Wine'  
*I. opaca* 'Glen Ellen'  
*I. opaca* 'Judy Evans'  
*I. vomitoria*  
*I. × attenuata* 'Rosalind Sarber'  
*I. × attenuata* 'Xanthocarpa'  
*I. (cornuta* 'Willowleaf' × *pernyi*) 'Betty's Beau'  
*I. [(cornuta* 'Burfordii') × *latifolia*] 'Bessie Smith'  
*I. × hybrid* 'Blue Wave'  
*I. cornuta* × (*cornuta* × *latifolia*) 'Frantastic'  
*I. × hybrid* 'Miniature'  
*I. × hybrid* 'Purple Frost'  
*I. × koehneana* 'Lassie'  
*I. × koehneana* 'Ruby'  
*I. × koehneana* 'Yule Brite'  
*I. × meserveae* 'Blue Angel'  
*I. ×* 'Conive' Festive™  
*I. ×* 'Coned' Little Red™  
*I. ×* 'Conaf' Oak Leaf™  
*I. ×* 'Magland' Oakland™ (three plants)  
*I. ×* 'Conin' Robin™

Even under adverse conditions, there are several *I. opacas* which have thrived in the arboretum. 'Torchbearer' was one of the first hollies planted and is now one of the tallest. 'Klein No.1' has good leaf color, berries, and has done well. 'Jersey Princess', 'Clarissa', and 'Valentine' are all outstanding in growth and appearance. *I. opaca* 'Gettysburg' from Gettysburg Cemetery has developed a good growing habit and is very attractive. Two male hollies, 'Dr. Cribbs' and 'Indiana State' have both proven to be hardy.

An update on how the various Holly of the Year plants have fared in the arboretum is as follows:

2003 *I. opaca* 'Satyr Hill': The two specimens planted in 1996 are surviving but have not grown well.

2004 *I. crenata* 'Sky Pencil': It has not done well in the arboretum.

2005 *I. × koehneana* 'Lassie': It was planted in 2003 and did not survive the cold of 2014.

2006 *I. × attenuata* ‘Sunny Foster’: It was planted in the arboretum in 1996, but each year it suffers severe winter damage.

2007 *I. aquifolium* ‘Lewis’: It was planted in 2000 and did not survive.

2008 *I. verticillata* ‘Maryland Beauty’: It is doing well in the arboretum.

2010 *I. verticillata* ‘Red Sprite’: There are 10 in the arboretum that were planted in 1994, and all are doing very well.

2013 *I. pedunculosa*: There were eleven in the arboretum which were planted between 1996 and 2007, and only one has survived.

2014 *I. × meserveae* ‘Mesgol’ ‘Golden Girl’™: There are four in the arboretum which have survived, but they have had poor berry production. We do not have *I. ‘Scepter’*, *I. (cornuta × aquifolium) ‘Nellie R. Stevens’*, or *I. aquifolium ‘Proud Mary’*.

During the summer of 2014 water drainage again became a major problem in much of the arboretum. Because the arboretum is located in a city park, we were given assistance by the City of Terre Haute Wastewater Department in installing new drainage lines. This was an extensive project which forced a delay in the construction of the new entryway into the arboretum. Construction is now set to begin in the spring of 2015.

Robert Artis, Friends of the Arboretum