

THE MORRIS ARBORETUM OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
Philadelphia, PA USDA Hardiness Zone 6

The most outstanding weather information for the past year was a very cold winter. January, February, and March of 2014 were 4.0 °F (–15.6 °C), 2.5° °F (–16.4 °C), and 4.0 °F (–15.6 °C) colder than average, respectively. In January, we had four nights below 6 °F (–14.4 °C) and in February we had four nights at or below 13 °F (–10.6 °C). These temperatures affected many of the tender hollies (see section C), and may have decreased fruit production among some of the *Ilex opaca*.

As of December 31, 2014, we have 179 taxa of *Ilex* planted in our collection.

In 2013, we planted 17 plants of nine taxa, seven of which were new (*) to our collection (one plant unless noted):

- I. × altaclerensis* ‘J. C. van Tol’*
- I. aquifolium* ‘Ovata’ (2 plants)*
- I. aquifolium* ‘Virginia Nosal’*
- I.* ‘Ginny Bruner’*
- I.* ‘Kurly Koe’*
- I. laevigata* (5 plants)*
- I. perado* ‘Pallida’*
- I. verticillata* ‘Jim Dandy’ (2 plants)
- I. verticillata* ‘Southern Gentleman’ (3 plants)

Plants (10) lost from our collection in 2013 [6 taxa, 2 taxa lost () from the collection (one plant unless noted)]:**

- I. × altaclerensis* ‘Captain Royal’**
- I. × altaclerensis* ‘James G. Esson’
- I. × altaclerensis* ‘Nigrescens’**
- I. fargesii*
- I. purpurea* × *glabra*
- I. serrata* (4 plants)

Plants that suffered injury from the winter of 2013-14:

- I. aquifolium* Scorch, yellow/brown leaves
- I. aquifolium* Scorch, yellow/brown leaves
- I. × aquipernyi* ‘Meschick’ Dragon Lady™ Brown leaves
- I. cornuta* ‘Burfordii’ × *pernyi* Scorch, yellow/brown leaves
- I. × koehneana* Scorch, yellow/brown leaves
- I. × koehneana* ‘Conayule’ Yule Brite™ Scorch, yellow/brown leaves
- I. × koehneana* ‘Wirt L. Winn’ Scorch, yellow/brown leaves
- I. perado* ssp. *platyphylla* Brown leaves
- I. purpurea* × *glabra* Defoliated (removed)
- I. rotunda* Defoliated (re-sprouting)

Plants that I have been impressed with over the past year:

- I. × altaclerensis* ‘Maderensis’ 1949–832*A– Good leaves, few fruit
- I. aquifolium* 1978–065*A Excellent leaves and fruit
- I. × aquipernyi* ‘San Jose’ 1953–344*A Cut back hard several years ago; very glossy leaves and some fruit
- I.* ‘Emily Bruner’ 1996–003*A Excellent leaves and fruit
- I.* ‘John T. Morris’ 1963–133*A Excellent leaves
- I. × koehneana* ‘Ruby’ 2001–213*A Excellent leaves

- I. × koehneana* ‘Wirt L. Winn’ 1996–006*B Excellent leaves and fruit
I. opaca 1949–875*A Good leaves and fruit
I. opaca ‘Good Will Park’ 1948–865*A Good leaves and fruit
I. opaca ‘Harriet’ 1948–853*B Good leaves and fruit
I. opaca ‘Helen Makepeace’ 1948–867*A Good leaves and fruit
I. opaca ‘Morris Arboretum’ 1949–788*A Dark leaves, good fruit set

We continue our major project to review and propagate the hollies in the core of our collection, known as the Holly Slope. The main goal of this project is to perform an assessment to determine if any hollies on the slope are unusual, special, or rarely present in other major holly collections nearby, and to propagate those hollies with the eventual intention of offering specimens to other gardens and arboreta. This was completed through correspondence with the staff at the institutions that house these major holly collections. Furthermore, this project will set the stage for determining what holly plants can be removed to reduce crowding to revitalize the collection. Propagation of these plants by cuttings was undertaken in the winter of 2013-2014, and they are currently growing in the greenhouse at the arboretum.

Holly of the Year

We do not have *I. opaca* ‘Satyr Hill’, *I. attenuata* ‘Sunny Foster’, *I. aquifolium* ‘Lewis’, *I. ‘Scepter’*, *I. (cornuta × aquifolium)* ‘Nellie R. Stevens’, or *I. aquifolium* ‘Proud Mary’.

- 2004 *I. crenata* ‘Sky Pencil’ – upright habit but very leggy and thinning foliage
2005 *I. × koehneana* ‘Lassie’ – nice form and lovely foliage; lots of fruit on one plant but not another
2008 *I. verticillata* ‘Maryland Beauty’ – two healthy masses; one fruits well but the other does not
2010 *I. verticillata* ‘Red Sprite’ – several masses, all healthy, some fruit better than others
2013 *I. pedunculosa* – one plant looks fair, dull green foliage, leggy shape / another plant has very yellowed foliage, frost damage; leggy shape
2014 *I. × meserveae* ‘Mesgolg’ – foliage fair, medium green, looking ok
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www.morrisarboretum.org