

THE SCOTT ARBORETUM OF SWARTHMORE

Swarthmore, Pennsylvania (USDA Hardiness Zone 6b)

Donated in 1974, the James R. Frorer Holly Collection was a gift of James R. Frorer, an avid collector of *Ilex* and a Swarthmore College alumnus. Frorer provided the resources for moving the collection and established an endowment fund to aid with upkeep and maintenance. The Scott Arboretum has been designated a National Holly Arboretum by the Holly Society of America. The extensive collection is also recognized by the Plant Collections Network (PCN). **PHOTOS AVAILABLE**

The collection sits on a south-facing slope overlooking the Crum Creek. Bountiful sunlight and air flow are afforded. These same winds can cause winter desiccation and the exposure leads to foliar bleaching. None of the specimens receive irrigation other than rainwater from storms. The collection is maintained by the Scott Arboretum's horticulture crew, curatorial office and volunteers.

Weather during 2017 and early 2018 was characterized by:

Very wet, rainy summer

Pleasant autumn with late frosts (first frost 11/10/17)

Extremely low temperatures in early January, (1/6/2018), and again in late January and early February (2/3/18)

Lowest temperature recorded: 6° F (-14 °C)

Highest temperature recorded: 96°F (35.5°C)

Annual precipitation: 40.59" (103 cm)

Number of plants: 1416; number of taxa: 314

2017 accession statistics: 10 taxa; 12 accessions; 380 plants

Here is an overview *Ilex* selections accessioned during the year:

I. [Acadiana™] 'Magiana'

I. [Christmas Jewel®] = 'HL 10-90'

I. 'Cherry Bomb'

I. 'Ginny Bruner'

I. 'Homefire'

I. 'Southern Gentleman'

I. 'Winter Gold'

I. 'Winter Red'

I. glabra 'Shamrock'

I. x *koehneana*

Deaccessions were minimal and include one of each of the following:

I. [Robin™] ‘Conin’
I. crenata
I. glabra ‘Compacta’
I. glabra ‘Densa’
I. glabra ‘Shamrock’
I. opaca ‘Boyce Thompson Xanthocarpa’
I. opaca ‘January 36’
I. opaca ‘Jersey Knight’
I. sugerokii
I. verticillata ‘Cacapon’
I. verticillata ‘Southern Gentleman’
I. verticillata ‘Winter Red’
I. × altaclerensis ‘James G. Esson’
I. × attenuata ‘Longwood Gold’

The following *Ilex* cultivars performed exceptionally throughout 2017 and early 2018:

‘Calina’ – excellent fruit-set, color and longevity; fruit evenly disbursed throughout plant

‘Cherry Bomb’ – excellent form and fruit-set

‘Dragon Slayer’ – excellent form

‘Dwarf Burford’ – superior form and foliage; foliage is extremely glossy, medium green

‘Ginny Bruner’ – excellent form, fruit-set and fruit color

‘NYBG No. 2’ – superior foliage color – deep, glossy, green

‘P334’ – stunning plant; excellent form, fruit-set, and longevity of fruit

‘Winter Red’ – excellent fruit-set, color and longevity

Holly of the Year/ Test Holly Evaluations

2017 – ‘Homefire’ – dead

2017 – ‘Elizabeth Coleman’ – N/A

2016 – ‘Carolina ‘Cone’ – fared well through cold and snow

2015 – ‘China Doll’ – N/A

2015 – ‘Holly Girl’ – N/A

2014 – ‘Dragon Slayer’ – exceptional performance

2013 – ‘Cherry Bomb’ – exceptional performance

2012 – [Christmas Jewel™] ‘HL 10-90’ – very good performance

2011 – [Miss Patricia™] ‘Dapat’ – very good performance

2010 – ‘Sled Run’ – N/A

2009 – ‘B51517’ – N/A

2009 – ‘Bronze Beauty’ – N/A

2009 – ‘Chickemmo’ – N/A

2009 – ‘Hugger’ – N/A

2008 – ‘Longwood Firefall’ – N/A

2008 – ‘Leah Bates’ – N/A

Mary Tipping

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