Dr. Kassab Holly

Ilex 'Dr. Kassab'



Dr. Kassab Holly foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 18 feet

Spread: 10 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 7a

Other Names: Chinese Holly, Horned Holly

Description:

This broad, dense holly is suitable for use as a screen with its tidy, pyramidal habit; splendid rich, dark green, glossy leaves and abundant red fruit that persists into winter, make this a great addition to the landscape; use China Boy as pollinator

Ornamental Features

Dr. Kassab Holly is primarily grown for its highly ornamental fruit. It features an abundance of magnificent red berries from late fall to mid winter. It has attractive dark green evergreen foliage. The glossy oval leaves are highly ornamental and remain dark green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Dr. Kassab Holly is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a distinctive and refined pyramidal form. Its average texture blends into the landscape, but can be balanced by one or two finer or coarser trees or shrubs for an effective composition.

This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds and bees to your yard. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Dr. Kassab Holly is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- Naturalizing And Woodland Gardens

Planting & Growing

Dr. Kassab Holly will grow to be about 18 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 10 feet. It has a low canopy with a typical clearance of 1 foot from the ground, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a medium rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 50 years or more. This variety requires a different selection of the same species growing nearby in order to set fruit.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It does best in average to evenly moist conditions, but will not tolerate standing water. It is particular about its soil conditions, with a strong preference for rich, acidic soils. It is quite intolerant of urban pollution, therefore inner city or urban streetside plantings are best avoided, and will benefit from being planted in a relatively sheltered location. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This particular variety is an interspecific hybrid.