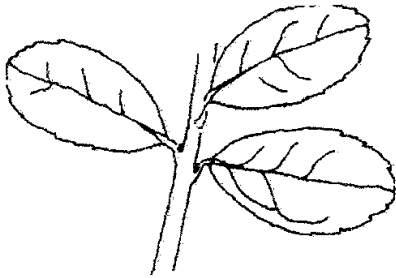


Japanese Holly

Ilex crenata



GENERAL DESCRIPTION: This a compact shrub to a small upright tree that is used in the landscape in a similar fashion as the littleleaf boxwood. It is densely branched with small, lustrous, deep green leaves that stay green in the winter. It is used for a broadleaf evergreen look in foundation plantings, for hedges and for mass plantings.

HABIT AND SIZE: Left unpruned it is generally a 5-10' high shrub but it can reach 20'. A much branched, rounded, flat-rounded or upright or can be like a small tree.

LANDSCAPE VALUE: Excellent for hedges, as a texture accent or as a foundation planting.

LEAVES: Alternately arranged, simple, evergreen, elliptic or obovate to oblong-lanceolate 0.5-1.25" long and 0.25-0.625" wide. The margins are crenately-serrate, sharp pointed; the texture is smooth; and, the color is a shiny deep green. ·

FLOWERS: 3-10 staminate flowers in 0.5-1' long cymes, the individual flowers with 4lobed calyx and 4 petals and stamens. Solitary and scattered pistillate flowers with 4 acute calyx lobes, 4 petals and a ciliate sessile stigma.

FRUIT: 0.25" diameter berry-like black drupe. September-October

BUD: Small and inconspicuous.

DISEASES AND INSECTS: Spider mites, nematodes in south and black knot disease.

HARDINESS AND RANGE: Zones 5-8. Does not do well in the deep south.

CULTIVARS: 'Compacta'- a small globose form, 'Glory'- the most cold hardy, 'Helleri'- a dwarf, broad mounded compact form with flat leaves.