Steeds Japanese Holly

Ilex crenata 'Steeds'

Height: 5 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ○ ◐

Hardiness Zone: 5a

Description:

This broadleaf evergreen shrub makes a fine choice for low hedges and topiary, takes pruning extremely well; features a compact, mounded form and glossy bright green leaves, one of the more popular varieties for hedging

Ornamental Features

Steeds Japanese Holly has rich green evergreen foliage which emerges light green in spring on a plant with a round habit of growth. The glossy narrow leaves remain green throughout the winter. It produces black berries from mid fall to late winter.

Landscape Attributes

Steeds Japanese Holly is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a more or less rounded form. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other landscape plants with less refined foliage.

This shrub will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It is a good choice for attracting birds to your yard. Gardeners should be aware of the following characteristic(s) that may warrant special consideration;

- Suckering

Steeds Japanese Holly is recommended for the following landscape applications;



Steeds Japanese Holly
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Steeds Japanese Holly foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Topiary

Planting & Growing

Steeds Japanese Holly will grow to be about 5 feet tall at maturity, with a spread of 4 feet. It tends to fill out right to the ground and therefore doesn't necessarily require facer plants in front, and is suitable for planting under power lines. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more. This is a female variety of the species which requires a male selection of the same species growing nearby in order to set fruit.

This shrub does best in full sun to partial shade. It prefers to grow in moist to wet soil, and will even tolerate some standing water. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is very fussy about its soil conditions and must have rich, acidic soils to ensure success, and is subject to chlorosis (yellowing) of the foliage in alkaline soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America.



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