Holly, Scallywag

Ilex x meserveae 'MonNieves'

Height: 4 feet

Spread: 4 feet

Sunlight: ◐

Hardiness Zone: 4b

Other Names: Blue Holly

Description:

One of the hardier evergreen hollies, this is a slow growing, dense, compact variety with the traditional shiny and spiny green foliage; doesn't produce fruit, but is used as a pollenator; a great foundation shrub with improved disease resistance

Ornamental Features

Holly, Scallywag has dark green evergreen foliage on a plant with a round habit of growth. The spiny oval leaves remain dark green throughout the winter.

Landscape Attributes

Holly, Scallywag is a dense multi-stemmed evergreen shrub with a more or less rounded 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.

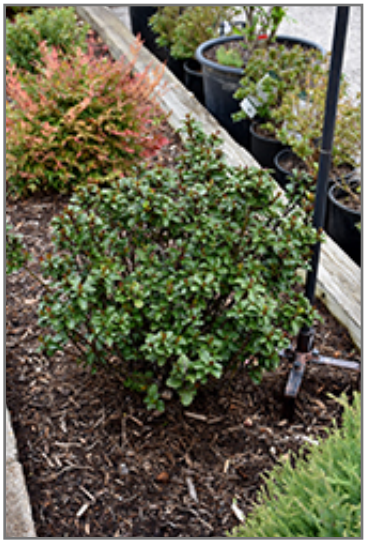
This is a relatively low maintenance shrub, and is best pruned in late winter once the threat of extreme cold has passed. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Holly, Scallywag is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- Hedges/Screening
- General Garden Use
- Container Planting



Holly, Scallywag foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder



Holly, Scallywag
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Planting & Growing

Holly, Scallywag will grow to be about 4 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. It grows at a slow rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for 40 years or more.

This shrub should be grown in a location with partial shade or which is shaded from the hot afternoon sun. It requires an evenly moist well-drained soil for optimal growth, but will die in standing water. 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 somewhat tolerant of urban pollution. 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.

Holly, Scallywag makes a fine choice for the outdoor landscape, but it is also well-suited for use in outdoor pots and containers. Because of its height, it is often used as a 'thriller' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination; plant it near the center of the pot, surrounded by smaller plants and those that spill over the edges. It is even sizeable enough that it can be grown alone in a suitable container. Note that when grown in a container, it may not perform exactly as indicated on the tag - this is to be expected. Also note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.