# Ilex ×aquipernyi DRAGON LADY ('Meschick')

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| **Height** | 3 - 6 m |
| **Width** | 2-3m |
| **Crown** | pyramidal, dark, dense crown |
| **Bark and branches** | young twigs dark green, bark green-brown, smooth |
| **Leaf** | oval, glossy dark green, very spiky, 4 - 6 cm, evergreen |
| **Flowers** | ♀, white, inconspicuous, solitar♂in the leaf axils, May/June |
| **Fruits** | fleshy drupe, 6 - 8 mm, vivid red |
| **Spines/thorns** | None |
| **Toxicity** | has toxic components |
| **Soil type** | humic, moist but well-drained soil |
| **Paving** | tolerates no paving |
| **Winter hardiness zone** | 6b (-20,5 to -17,8 °C) |
| **Wind resistance** | very good |
| **Other resistances** | resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind |
| **Fauna tree** | resistant to frost (WH 1 - 6), can withstand wind, provides food for birds |
| **Application** | tree containers, roof gardens, coastal areas, small gardens, patio gardens |
| **Shape** | clearstem tree, feathered tree, multi-stem treem |

Small tree with a very regular, densely branching, pyramidal crown, about 3 - 6 m tall. Young twigs are dark green, mature bark is green-brown and smooth. The glossy dark green leaves are oval to almost rectangular, with downward-curling tips. They are 3 - 5 cm long and about half as wide. The margins are very undulate, with 4 - 6 strong, sharp prickles. The flowers are small, fairly inconspicuous and female. They are followed by vibrant red berries 6 - 8 mm across. Sometimes attributed to the hybrid I. x meserveae, but originated from a cross between I. aquifolium and I. pernyi. Prefers a humic, moist but well-drained soil and tolerates either acidic or calcareous soil. As well as its use in parks and gardens it is also suitable for use as a narrow hedge.

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