



Ilex 'Nellie R. Stevens'



Height	6 - 8 m
Width	4-5m
Crown	pyramidal , dark, dense crown
Bark and branches	dark grey-green
Leaf	oval to elongated, dark olive green, with 2 - 3 teeth on each side, 5 - 8 cm long and 4 - 5 cm wide, evergreen
Flowers	, white, inconspicuous, April/Ma
Fruits	orange-red, fleshy drupe, 8 - 10 mm, very numerous
Spines/thorns	None
Toxicity	has toxic components
Soil type	humic, moist but well-drained soil, tolerates both acidic and calcareous soils
Paving	tolerates no paving
Winter hardiness zone	6 (-23,3 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, multi-stem treem
Origin	G.A. van Lennep, St. Michael, MD, USA, 1954

First-class American cultivar, originating from a cross between *I. cornuta* and *I. aquifolium*. Attractive, healthy leaves and good, tight, regular habit. Because the plant can bear very many fruits, 'Nellie R. Stevens' is one of the most widely used holly cultivars in the USA. Nellie Robinson Stevens was a respected head teacher in Oxford, Maryland. She was also a keen gardener. Around 1900, she collected the seeds from naturally pollinated *I. cornuta* in the U.S. National Arboretum in Washington. Descendants of these seeds grew in the garden of her home, which after her death in 1951 was purchased by the grower Gustav van Lennep. He noticed the plant and introduced it.