

Weeping Yaupon Holly (*Ilex vomitoria* 'Pendula')

Weeping Yaupon Holly makes a very distinct, irregular, weeping form with its upright crooked trunks and slender, curved, pendulous branches and small, oval, grey-green foliage.

Weeping Yaupon Holly is most often seen 15 to 20 feet tall with a spread of only 6 to 12 feet. Old plants will spread to 25 feet.

The flowers attract bees for several weeks and are followed in fall and winter by a spectacular display of red berries which attract wildlife. The inconspicuous male and female flowers appear on separate plants so purchase plants with berries on them (females) if you want a berry-producing tree.

The tree is best used as an accent or specimen due to its unusual form, but planted about 8 to 10 feet apart makes a nice screen in the full sun.

Weeping Yaupon Holly is adaptable to a wide range of cultural conditions, from well-drained to wet, acid to alkaline, and sun to part-shade. It is very tolerant of drought and sea salt, and is one of the most durable and adaptable of the small-leaved evergreen Hollies for use in southern landscapes.

Light pruning may be necessary to maintain shape, but unlike the species it requires less maintenance because it does not sprout from the roots.

Information Source:

Gilman, E. F. and Watson, D.G. (1993) *Ilex vomitoria* 'Pendula': Weeping Yaupon Holly. University of Florida. <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st312>

Photos by: Alicia Lamborn

