

Dahoon Holly

Ilex cassine

Dahoon Holly is ideal for a variety of landscape settings. Capable of reaching 40 feet in height, dahoon holly is usually seen at a height of 20 to 30 feet with an 8 to 12-foot spread. Possessing male and female flowers on separate plants, at least two dahoon hollies (male and female) must be planted in the landscape to ensure production of the brilliant red berries in fall and winter. The berries serve as an excellent food source for wildlife. It does best on moist soils since the wet, boggy soils of swamps is its native environment. Dahoon holly can tolerate drier locations with some watering, but often has a thin crown in this environment. Little pruning is needed to create a well-structured, strong tree. It appears to adapt well to the confined spaces of urban and downtown landscapes and is tolerant of some salt spray. The crown is fuller in full sun.

Type: evergreen shrub

USDA hardiness zones: 7 through 11

Uses: espalier; hedge; deck or patio; screen; specimen; container or planter; bonsai

Origin: native to Florida

Height: 20 to 30 feet **Spread:** 8 to 12 feet

Light requirement: part shade to full sun

Soil tolerances: clay; sand; loam; alkaline; acidic; wet to well-drained

Drought tolerance: modeate

Aerosol salt tolerance: modeate

Invasive potential: native

Pest resistance: resistant to pests/diseases

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Photo: UF/ IFAS