



Flowers



Fruit



1-3"



Height range 15-30'

# Deciduous Holly

*Ilex decidua*

## The Holly Family (Aquifoliaceae)

**Basic Description:** A small tree or large bushy shrub with light gray bark and glossy, green, deciduous leaves arranged alternately along the stems. Also known as Possumhaw.

**Interesting Facts:** Showy in winter when bright colored berries contrast with bare, light colored stems. Once frozen and thawed, the fruit of this holly and other hollies are more desirable to wildlife.

**Flower:** White, .25" in size, clustered on short spurs with male and female flowers found on separate plants.

**Fruit:** Showy red, occasionally orange to yellow berries, .25", clustered along the stems, remain after leaves fall.

**Wildlife Value:** Fruit consumed by many mammals, including opossums and raccoons; songbirds and game birds, such as bluebirds, wild turkey and quail.

**Habitat:** Found in a wide variety of areas; lowlands and swamps to ravines and rich upland areas. Able to withstand flooding.

### LEAF TYPE

SIMPLE



### POLLINATOR

INSECT



### WILDLIFE VALUE

HIGH

