



# Yaupon Holly

*Ilex vomitoria*

**Plant Description** – Native, shrub, evergreen, perennial

**Height:** 12 – 25 ft **Width/Spread:** 8 – 12 ft



## Leaves

**Shape:** Ovate

**Arrangement:** Alternate

**Margin:** Crenate

**Form:** Simple

**Leaf Description:** Leaves are 1 - 1.5 inches long and 0.75 inches wide; dark green and shiny on the upper side and lighter green underneath; leathery; toothed margins

## Flower/Bloom

**Flower Color:** White or Greenish white

**Flower Shape:** Funnelform

**In Bloom:** Apr - May

**Flower Description:** Flowers are small with four petals; Relatively inconspicuous; Fragrant



## Fruits & Seeds

**Spreads via:** Seeds

**Seed Type:** Fruit – Drupe

**Months in Seed:** Winter

**Fruit and Seed Description:** Bright red, round, glossy, berry-looking fruits that are 0.25 inches in diameter

## Ecological Benefits

Food source for Butterflies, Caterpillars (Henry's Elfin), Other Pollinators, Other Birds, and Small Mammals

## Maintenance Notes

Retain leaves in winter; Pruning is not necessary, but can take heavy pruning to shape into a hedge or tree; Trimming will promote regrowth for a fuller shrub; If pruning, it is best to trim annually in the winter; Can grow aggressively and form thickets; Remove root suckers to keep it localized; For red fruit, need both male and female plants; Can be propagated with cuttings; Until established, water two times per week during the summer and once per week during the rest of the year