

winterberry holly [Aquifoliaceae](#) *Ilex verticillata* (L.) A. Gray

 symbol: ILVE

vTree

**Leaf:** Alternate, simple, deciduous, margin sharply toothed, lance to egg-shaped (variable), glabrous and green above, paler and generally hairy below, 2 to 3 inches long.

**Flower:** Species is dioecious; both male and females are stalked and greenish-white with 5-7 petals, usually in clusters, appear in spring.

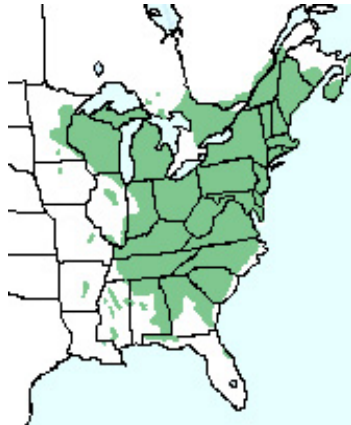
**Fruit:** Round drupes, 1/4 inch in diameter, reddish-orange to red in clusters of 2 to 4, ripening in fall but persisting through the winter, seeds smooth and smaller (1/8 inch long) than *Ilex decidua* or *I. montana*.

**Twig:** Slender, gray, with scattered light lenticels, buds and leaf scars are small, one vascular bundle scar, tiny, black thorn-like stipules may be present on either side of the leaf scar.

**Bark:** Thin, smooth and grayish brown.

**Form:** Upright shrub with multiple stems, reaches heights of 10 to 15 feet.

Looks like: [sarvis holly](#) - [deciduous holly](#) - [mountain holly](#) - [sweet cherry](#)



**Additional Range Information:**  
*Ilex verticillata* is native to North America. Range may be expanded by planting. [See states reporting winterberry holly.](#)

**External Links:**  
[USDA Plants Database](#)  
[Horticulture](#)

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