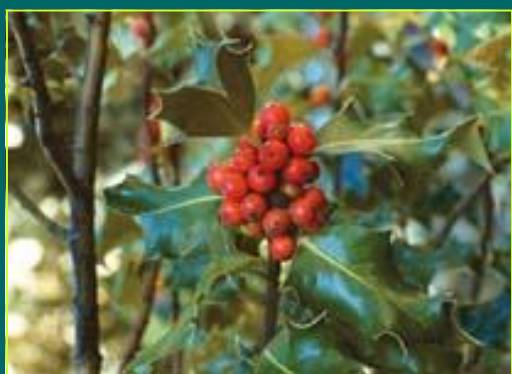


Holly

Series: Environmental Weed Factsheet
Ranked 9 — Worst weed in Yarra Ranges



Common Name: Holly

Botanical Name: *Ilex aquifolium*

Origin: West and southern Europe

Size: 6 to 15 m H

Flowers: November to March

Fruits: April to June

Best removal time: September to April

How to dispose of weeds:

Recovery & Transfer centres:

- Healesville
- Wesburn
- Coldstream
- Lysterfield

Note: For a free tip voucher to dispose off your weeds, contact the Environment dept. on 1300 368 333. Limited availability.

OR

Fortnightly Garden Organics Bin

Service. *Note: This service is only available to properties within eligible service areas. For more information, contact the Waste Management services on 1300 368 333.*

OR

Bundled green waste service. *Note: Check your Residential Recycling & Waste guide for details of the next service in your area.*

What it does...

Holly readily regenerates, forming dense thickets, invading moist bushland areas and seriously impacting and threatening the indigenous plant life of the Yarra Ranges by out-competing local species.

What it looks like...

Holly is a dense evergreen small tree or large shrub with prickly dark green leaves. The tiny male and female flowers are on separate plants. The fruit is a roundish green berry, maturing to red. It is toxic.

How it spreads...

- by birds and animals who eat the red berries. Birds can then travel over large areas depositing seeds in droppings allowing the plant to generate in new areas.
- by seeds, root suckers when plants are damaged, or by layering of branches, when they touch the ground
- with soil movement or on machinery.
- by dumping of garden waste in bushland, on roadsides.
- Sold by some nurseries, fetes and markets. Buyer beware!

How to remove it...

To save you time and energy and for the most effective removal of Holly do not treat during Winter as the tree is dormant and will not take up the poison.



HAND: Small seedlings can be removed when soil is moist. They are often difficult to pull out due to strong roots. Do not hand pull if all the roots cannot confidently be removed as they will resprout.



CUT & PAINT: Cut the shrub off at ground level and paint stump immediately with an undiluted glyphosate based product. This is useful for larger seedlings or small shrubs that are too hard to hand pull.



DRILL & FILL: Drill holes 2-3cm in the trunk as close to the root as possible. Fill each hole immediately with an undiluted glyphosate based product. The tree will then slowly die and may need to be removed later. This is useful when you do not want to open a hole in the canopy by removing a large tree. Repeat treatments may be required over 12 months.

Indigenous alternatives to plant...

Many large shrub or small tree alternatives indigenous to the Yarra Ranges region are available and would make great substitutes for Holly.

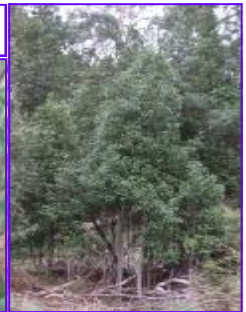
Some alternatives include:



Victorian Christmas Bush or *Prostanthera lasianthos*



Muttonwood or *Myrsine howittiana*



Tree Lomatia or *Lomatia fraseri*



Photos: Shire staff; Shire staff, Healesville Sanctuary, Colleen Miller, Marty White

Useful websites

The following is a list of useful information resources:

- For a list of indigenous plant nurseries, see [Indigenous Plant Nurseries list](#).
- For a list of other weeds in Yarra Ranges, see [Environmental Weeds list](#).
- For a list of chemical/herbicide contractors, see [Contractor and supplier list](#).
- For descriptions of the local plants and the weeds of the Shire of Yarra Ranges see www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/plants



WARNING IF USING CHEMICALS

If you are weeding, all chemical use must be done as per manufacturers' guidelines. Ensure that you wear protective clothing/eye wear at all times. Take care and protect yourself, your family, pets and the natural environment (waterways, indigenous plants, wildlife) from coming into contact with chemicals.

When purchasing your herbicide always ask for a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS). Product suppliers are required to make these sheets available at the point of sale. If a sheet is not available, notify the product manufacturer and the state authority. For further information go to www.apvma.gov.au or call the Poisons Information Service on 13 11 26.

For information on State-listed noxious weeds contact the Department of Primary Industries (DPI) on 136 186. Remember, as a landowner you are required by State law to control and remove noxious weeds on your land.