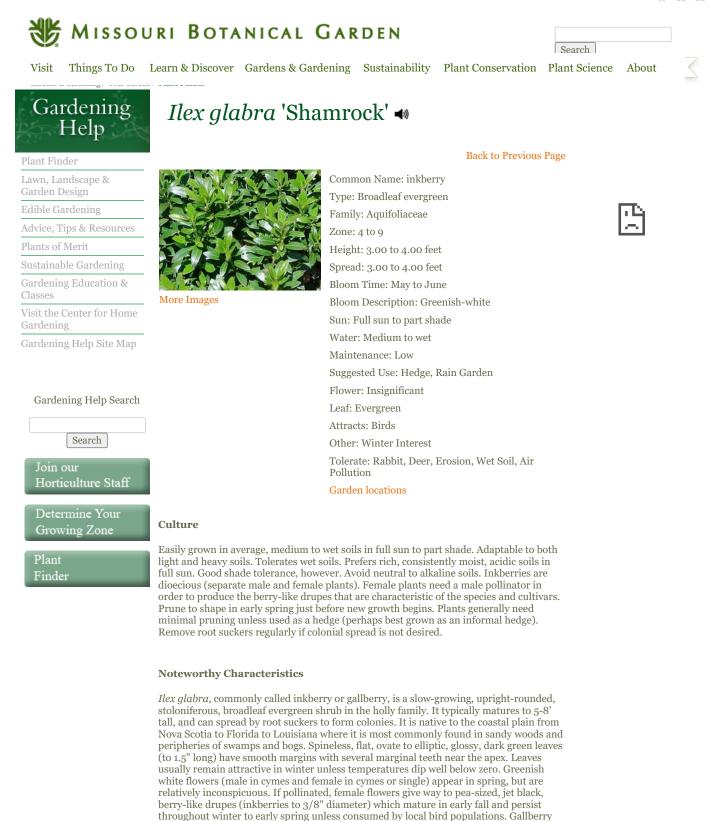
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honey is a highly-rated honey that results from bees feeding on inkberry flowers. This honey is locally produced in certain parts of the Southeastern U.S. in areas where beekeepers release bees from late April to early June to coincide with inkberry flowering time. Dried and roasted inkberry leaves were first used by Native Americans to brew a black tea-like drink, hence the sometimes used common name of Appalachian tea for this

Genus name comes from the Latin name *Quercus ilex* for holm oak in reference to the foliage similarities (holm oak and many of the shrubs in the genus *Ilex* have evergreen

shrub.

leaves).

A A

Specific epithet means smooth in reference to plant leaf surfaces.

'Shamrock' is a compact rounded cultivar that grows 3-4' tall and suckers less than the species.

Problems

No serious insect or disease problems. Leaf spot is an occasional problem. Spider mites may appear, especially in dry conditions. Susceptible to chlorosis (yellowing of leaves) in high pH (alkaline) soils.

Garden Uses

Mass or group. Excellent for shrub borders, foundation plantings or as a low hedge. Also effective naturalized in moist woodland gardens or in moist locations near streams or ponds. This species is noted for its ability to perform well in wet sites.



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