

# December 2018 Plant of the Month

## Holly-leaf Redberry

*Rhamnus ilicifolia*

Plant Form: Evergreen Shrub

Water Use: Very Low

Mature Size: 3-9 ft. tall & wide

Exposure: Full Sun, Part Sun

Bloom Time: Spring (Mar-May), Summer (June)

Native to: California, Arizona, Nevada, Oregon, Baja California  
(500 - 6,600 feet)

Hardiness: Cold Hardy to 0°F

Holly-leaf Redberry is a handsome, mounding, evergreen shrub with dark-green, glossy, holly-like leaves. Tiny yellowish flowers are inconspicuous, but female flowers produce bright red berries relished by birds and small mammals. Male and female flowers grow on separate plants, so male plants will not produce berries. Redberry loves dry, rocky slopes, but prefers part shade in the drier parts of its range. Plants growing in full sun maintain a dense form, while plants in shade are usually more open and tree-like. This tidy, moderately slow-growing plant needs very little water or care. It can tolerate some summer water up to once a month, but usually prefers no supplemental irrigation after becoming established. Its small red berries are colorful in summer, and its shiny foliage is attractive all year. Performs well as an ornamental plant on dry banks, as an informal screen or low hedge in hot, sunny areas, or as an accent anywhere.



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