

INTERNATIONAL *ILEX* CULTIVAR REGISTRATIONS

Michael R. Pontti

1-17 *Ilex cassine* 'Patio Jewel'

Female

Registered: May 31, 2017

Albert Durio, Sr.

4747 I-49 South Service Road

Opelousas, Louisiana 70570

The selection originated as a chance seedling. The selector was selling seedling Dahoon holly for many years and decided to select the best female and male clones he could find. For the female clones he concentrated on looking for large, nicely colored fruit, compact growth and a pleasing leaf color. The male clone selected had overall vigor and an appealing growth habit.

The evergreen tree, now ten years old, is 4.9 to 5.6 m (16 – 18 ft) tall, conical in shape, with a spread of 1.8 to 2.5 m (6 – 8 ft) and a herring-bone branching habit. The leaves are typically 7.7 cm long by 3.2 cm wide (3 by 1¼ in), elliptical in shape, with an obtuse apex, entire leaf margins, cuneate leaf base, and petioles 1 cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ in) long. Average yearly growth is estimated at 30 to 45 cm (12 – 18 in). Leaf color is Green Group 139B on the Royal Hort. Soc. Colour Chart, 1995. Fruits are subglobose to 5 – 6 mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ in) diameter with pedicels up to 8 mm ($\frac{3}{16}$ in) long, red, Red Group 44A.

Plants have been grown and sold to the trade at Durio Growers, 4747 I-49 South Service Road, Opelousas, Louisiana during the past 3 – 4 years. Selection was based on a nice compact form that shapes easily, and can be maintained any size, especially for the small patio or larger gardens. The selection fruits heavily with large red fruit and rounded leaves, and with a tight growth that can be shaped into a columnar habit. It grows well in full sun. 'Patio Jewel' was named because it was felt the clone was a perfect topiary for small areas, with excellent compact growth which can be easily shaped as a topiary. Hardiness is rated at zone 7 on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone map of 1990.

Voucher specimens are on deposit in the herbarium of the U.S. National Arboretum (NA), Washington, D.C., 20002.



Ilex cassine 'Patio Jewel'



