



# Design Standards for Urban Infrastructure

## Plant Species for Urban Landscape Projects in Canberra

**Botanical Name:** *Quercus ilex* (Qil)

**Common Name:** Holm oak, Holly oak

### Species Description

- Evergreen
- Rounded form
- Finely fissured bark
- Toothed leaves which are dark leathery green on top and white underneath
- Male flowers are yellow [catkins](#) which appear in spring
- Small acorns

### Height and width

12 to 15 metres tall by 12 to 15 metres wide

### Species origin

Mediterranean

### Landscape use

- Available Soil Volume required:  $\geq 70\text{m}^3$
- Suitable for use in parks
- Could be used as a street tree in conjunction with a secondary, faster growing street species

### Use considerations

- Not widely planted in Canberra but has grown well
- High frost tolerance and high drought tolerance
- Tolerates a wide variety of soils but prefers deep soils and doesn't tolerate wet sites
- [Long lived](#)
- Extremely slow growing
- Low flammability
- Acorn drop may be a nuisance in pedestrian areas

### Examples in Canberra

Bonney Street, Ainslie; Torres and Vancouver Streets, Red Hill (mixed with *Quercus suber*) and Westbourne Woods

### Availability

Commercially available

