**Ilex myrtifolia - myrtle holly**
Holly Family (Aquifoliaceae)

**Rarity Rank:** S2/G5?

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<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Global</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>imperiled</td>
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**Range:** AL, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC, TX

**Recognition:**
- Evergreen shrub or small tree (not exceeding 5 to 6 m tall), often multi-stemmed from the base
- Leaves narrow, up to 8 mm wide and ranging from 5 to 35 mm in length, stiff and spine-tipped
- Branchlets stiff, borne at angles of 90 degrees or nearly so to the branches from which they arise
- Bark is rough-textured with corky thickenings (especially near the base), pale grey to almost white in color
- Flowers white, small, unisexual, with 4 petals
- Fruit is a bright red (sometimes orange or yellow), round drupe, 5 to 8 mm in diameter, close to the stem, with 4 nutlets

**Flowering Time:** April to May; **Fruiting:** October to December (to February)

**Light Requirement:** Part shade to shade

**Wetland Indicator Status:**
FACW – usually in wetlands

**Habitat:**
Bayhead swamps imbedded in the longleaf pine flatwoods.

**Threats:**
Changes in hydrology (drainage/channelizing of streams in bayhead swamps)

**Beneficial Management Practices:**
Protection of bayhead swamps and landscape level areas in the longleaf pine flatwoods

**LA River Basins:** Pearl, Pontchartrain
References:

