

Photinia (*Rosaceae*)



x fraseri "Red Robin" (*P. serrulata* "Red Robin"), Christmas Berry

Origin: New Zealand. Description: upright shrub later becoming rounded, with many, dense branches. We have recently achieved good results training it into a tree with a clear stem. The trunk grows straight and smooth, highlighting an attractive grey-green bark. The crown is dense with no gaps, tending towards globular, impenetrable by the sun's rays. Leaves: evergreen, alternate, fairly leathery, from

obovate to oval-elongate, 8-12cm long, 4-6cm wide, toothed, borne on stalks (red when young), 2cm long. The leaves on the new growth (very precocious) are ruby red and so vibrant that they look as though they have been painted. From late spring until the end of summer the leaves gradually turn green, but splashes of new red leaves brighten up the plant, and they then become scarlet again in autumn. Flowers: in May, small, white, slightly tinged with pink, grouped in a large inflorescence which overshadows the leaves. They are not among Nature's most attractive but they are eye-catching. Fruit (only depending on the pruning): from the end of summer to the end of autumn, round, 0.50cm wide, red and then black. Cultivation: adapts to all types of soil but gives the best results in fairly cool, not too dry, loose soil and will also tolerate fairly calcareous soil. Withstands all pruning and can be formed into beautiful, compact hedges with no gaps at the bottom. It is certainly one of the plants that adapts well to being grown in pots of any size.

Photinia



**x fraseri "Nana"
(P. x fraseri "Little Red Robin")**

Dwarf Photinia x fraseri "Red Robin" of which various clones exist with different names. It has a compact habit and the leaves are the same form and colour but smaller. Excellent for pots, containers, low hedges and borders.

serr. "Curly Fantasy"®

Origin: Holland. Evergreen, upright, roundish shrub. Leaves are from obovate to oval, 12-15cm long, 4-6cm wide, leathery with undulate and dentate margins. The new leaves are always red or pink; some leaves stay bright red even in winter. White flowers in broad panicles in April and May. Red fruit in autumn. It has the same growing requirements and use as P. x fraseri "Red Robin".

