

IVY
JOURNAL

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SPECIFIC IVY QUESTIONS:

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President's Message

Suzanne Warner Pierot

I can't remember when I've felt so proud and happy as I walked through the Philadelphia Flower Show this year. After all, it is the largest and most prestigious indoor show in the world. It should be. It cost the organizers \$6.7 million to put it on. And there, right with the 60 major exhibitors, was The American Ivy Society's beautiful display of more than 50 different ivy cultivars shown as pot plants, standards and hanging baskets as well as berry-covered Adult ivies and a larger-than-life topiary of an eagle. And it wasn't only *Hedera helix*. We showed the other five species: *Hedera algeriensis*, *H. colchica*, *H. hibernica*, *H. nepalensis* and *H. rhombea*.

I thought back to October 1973 and the first announcement of the formation of The American Ivy Society and our desire to "... give the versatile ivy its rightful place in the plant world". By some miracle, soon after this announcement I began to get letters from like-minded enthusiasts saying they would like to join and help in my quest to "...clarify its nomenclature".

We were only a small group back then, but so hard working and determined. We established test gardens and, when they were growing well, we applied to the Royal Horticulture Society in England to become the International Registrars of *Hedera*. We had stiff competition from the newly formed British Ivy Society but in the end we were chosen. It couldn't have been easy for the Royal Horticulture Society to select the American Ivy Society to be the registrar of English ivy. But we had done our home work. We had a Research Center.

Like so many things in life it was a lucky break that made our Research Center possible. Shortly after the announcement of the formation of The American Ivy Society, I, as President, received an impressive embossed invitation with my name in calligraphy to come help celebrate the gift to The American Horticulture

Society of River Farm, one of George Washington's original five farms in Alexandria, Virginia on 25 acres adjoining the Potomac River. What a magnificent party it was. Guests were asked to park their cars some distance away and were brought to the party by horse drawn carriages. The President's wife, Pat Nixon, arrived by boat and was greeted by ladies wearing hoop- skirts and their escorts in satin breeches.

The Presidents and Directors of the great Botanic Gardens of the United States were all invited. So, too, were the Presidents of the Plant Societies: The Rose, Orchid, Holly, Rock Garden and Rhododendron Societies. And, yes, the newly formed American Ivy Society was included.

Can you imagine how thrilled I was to have the heads of America's Botanical Gardens in one place so I could tell each of them my hope to "clarify ivy's nomenclature" and to ask for their help. I had the good fortune to be seated next to Dr. Russell Siebert of Longwood Gardens and it was he who took me by the hand and introduced me to the Chiefs of each of the Gardens, saying "this little Lady needs your help". I had noticed that even in the U. S. Arboretum in Washington D. C. old plants had "sported" and that many of the names were therefore incorrect. I asked if they would send me cuttings of any ivies with questionable names and said that our Research Center would grow them in test gardens and in due course would report back to them. Miracle of miracles! They did, and that is how our first reference collection was created.

And now, 29 years later, here I was at the Philadelphia Flower Show looking at our wonderful flood-lit exhibit and marveling at how far we have come. So many of our members came to work in 4 hour shifts to answer questions from the public about ivy. If you were one of the volunteers, I say a big "thank you" for your help and if you weren't – please come next year. I think you'll be proud of your Society.



All about Adult Ivies: Adult *Hedera helix* 'Chester' (A. V.)

By
Cliff L. Coon
Fremont, California

Introduction

In 1985 Cliff Coon planted one rooted juvenile cutting of 'Chester' next to a six-foot redwood fence, where the ivy cutting was allowed to climb. The first adult stems (AIS 95-367) were found 7 years later in 1992. Subsequently a large head of adult ivy has formed at the top of the fence. This has been cut back severely several times, resulting in branching that has formed an even larger, denser head.

Description

Hedera helix 'Chester' is a variegated ivy. The leaf coloring of adult 'Chester' closely resembles that of the juvenile form (Sulgrove 1982). The center is composed of a dark green and one shade of gray-green, whereas the border is cream to yellow-cream. Occasionally a stem sports leaves with a white border.

The shape of the adult leaves, however, differ considerably from that of its juvenile form. Instead of having three to five lobes with shallow sinuses, seen in the juvenile state, the leaves of the adult are ovate to deltoid, with the creamy margin and intruding into the gray-green center such that the creamy border is irregular in width. The leaves are 3-5 cm long and are slightly longer than wide. The leaves are spaced irregularly from 0.3 to 1.5 cm around an apple-green stem. (The stems of the juvenile are maroon in good light). The length of the light green petioles is one-half to three-quarters that of the leaf blade.

The berries of adult 'Chester' are dark purple and 3-5 mm in

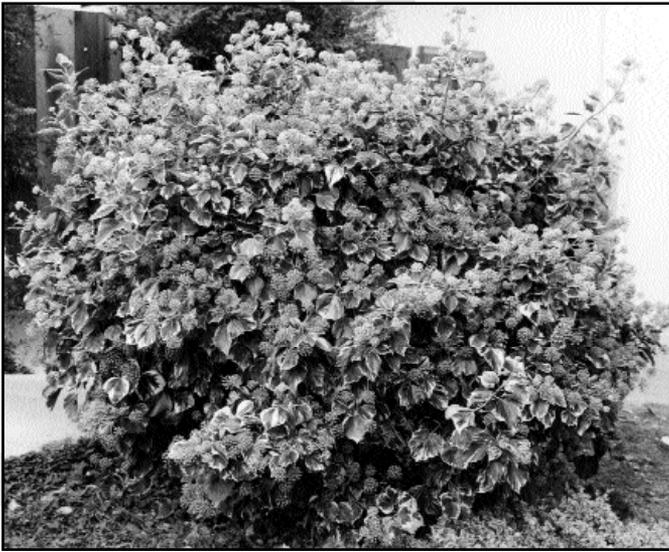


Figure 1. Adult *Hedera helix* 'Chester'. Shrub of *Hedera helix* 'Chester' (AIS 95-367). This shrub, growing in Fremont, California, grew from a rooted cutting in 4 years with occasional pruning to make a nice, dense specimen plant. The overall cast to the plant is ivory to cream, since the individual leaves have an ivory to cream, irregular margin that intrudes into the center composed of dark green and gray-green streaks.

Photo by Cliff L. Coon, October 2000.

diameter; they are borne on panicles consisting of 3-8 umbels with 30-60 flowers and berries on each umbel. About two-thirds of the flowers develop into fruit. The flowering stem is strong and can support a full-berried panicle in an upright position.

The overall appearance of the plant is ivory with gray shades.

Similar Cultivars

Although the leaves of 'Chester' are similar to those of 'Glacier', there are significant differences. The margins of 'Chester' are cream to yellow-cream, whereas the margins of 'Glacier' are cream to white. Thus the plants of both the juvenile and adult 'Chester' have a yellowish or ivory cast that is absent in 'Glacier'. In addition, the centers of the leaves of 'Chester' are limited to two colors of green, whereas 'Glacier' has a least four shades of green and gray-green. In addition, the leaves of 'Chester' are slightly convex



Figure 2. Adult *Hedera helix* 'Chester'. Close-up of the inflorescence (AIS 95-367). The flowering branch system of 'Chester' is a panicle composed of 3-8 umbels with 30-60 flowers. Two-thirds of the flowers in each cluster develop into dark purple fruit, which are 3 to 5 mm in diameter.

Photo by Cliff L. Coon, October 2000.

(curved downward), while those of 'Glacier' are slightly concave (hollow side up). Lastly, the leaves of 'Glacier' are more irregular in outline than those of 'Chester'. 'Glacier' is also a slower-growing plant than 'Chester', and its leaves are more closely set together. [Editor's note: There are several forms of adult 'Glacier', one of which has been named 'Iceberg'. 'Iceberg' does not have the same tightly spaced leaves below the inflorescence that Cliff Coon's Adult 'Glacier' has.]

Known adult ivies with light-colored margins are *H. Algeriensis* 'Gloire de Marengo' (Sulgrove 1987) and *Hedera colchica* 'Dentata Variegata', both being more vigorous plants with much larger leaves. Others are *H. rhombica* 'Variegata' [Sulgrove 1992, Heieck 1993] (the adult is called 'Crème de Menthe') and *Hedera helix* 'Submarginata', both of which have small leaves with larger and whiter margins.

Propagation

Compared with other adult cultivars, semi-hardwood cuttings of 'Chester' root easily, often rooting in 1 to 2 months. Within three years such cuttings of 'Chester' in the San Francisco Bay area grow into a handsome shrub suitable as a potted specimen or for landscaping.

Adult shrubs of 'Chester' should be pruned yearly to encourage branching and denseness and to maintain a desired shape and size. 'Chester' occasionally produces juvenile stems. These should be removed.

Sporting

Adult 'Chester' regularly produces four sports.

An all-green sport that is the most common and resembles that of many other all-green ivies of *Hedera helix*.

Stems with cream leaves covered with green speckles commonly occur. These stems are weak and slow-growing and are soon

crowded out by the more vigorous typical growth. The cream-colored leaves also burn easily in sunlight. On its own, this cream-colored version would make an interesting plant but it has not yet been rooted.

A sport with leaves with a white border instead of cream. This occurs rarely. This sport is worth cultivating but so far has received little attention.

An all-cream-or-nearly-white sport sometimes appears but this sport is weak because of its lack of chlorophyll and cannot be rooted.

It is interesting to note that each of these four adult sports has its counterpart in the juvenile phase of 'Chester'.

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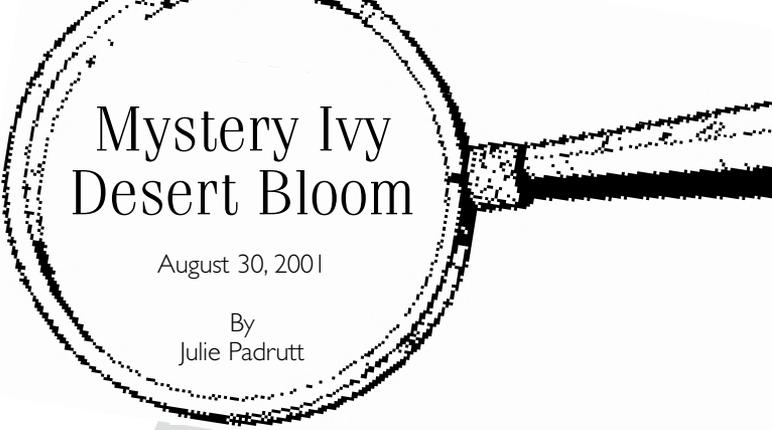
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Mystery Ivy Desert Bloom

August 30, 2001

By
Julie Padrutt

It was hot like only the Vegas valley can be hot. Searing, breathless, that white heat that makes you want to seek cool shade or air-conditioning or a wide and bottomless, salt-crusted Margarita. But Steve and I are in his truck, a grey and trustworthy old Toyota without air (he bought it in California), so there's not a hope of any of those luxuries anytime soon. We're on a mission taking us to Searchlight, Nevada and a drive through hot, parched August desert is the only game around.

But it is late in the day and the sun is on the wet edge of beginning its climb down the flat, exhausted sky. While we both know that there will be no real relief from the heat, even after darkness, there is still a certain urgency to our trip that the lateness of the day brings with it. An unmistakable excitement.

We've made the turnoff to old 95 Highway and plummet down the long, seemingly endless, road towards Searchlight. You can see for miles ahead until the road fades into distant colorless mountains. Between the truck and our destination a dry salt lake shimmers in the heat; it is slashed in two by the highway. Oh! It is a merciless desert; how can anything survive? What fruitless trip takes the Urban Gardeners on this path?

We travel mostly in silence, awed by the vast plain and addle-brained by the heat. I concentrate on the magnificence of the surrounding scenery in the dying, hot light as Steve concentrate on sweating and driving.

He is taking me to see the seed collector at her temporary digs in a trailer house. She is owner of Desert Enterprises out of Morristown, Arizona, but she comes up here and stays in Searchlight when there's work in Vegas. I'm curious about this woman and this trailer and this ride through the desert. What is there at this trailer? Who is this woman? What is it that she REALLY does?

Finally the dry lake bed (it has to be at least as hot as Death Valley back there) is behind us and we arrive in Searchlight. We turn off the only main drag and jiggle around a few turns into a small trailer park. Her's is in the back and the desert stretches west with no interruption from there.

As we park the truck behind the trailer volumes of laughter spill out to greet us. I'm hesitant and hot. I wasn't expecting mirth from people making a living from the Sonoran and Mohave Deserts but then I realize that there are a lot of people who don't think anything grows in the desert or that it's not worth anything. Steve and I, and any true gardener knows that's just not true. Native shrubs, trees, and grasses from the desert, when brought into cultivation, make stunning and durable specimens in Las Vegas. In truth, variation and selection for forms of leaf or color of flower, which has been exploited heavily in more benign climates, could provide desert residents much to choose from in years to come. Seed collection and preservation of native populations is an important first step in the right direction. DESERT ENTERPRISES and people who toil in the heat and the sun to collect seed at the proper stage of ripening, are still pioneers in the great western tradition. It's worth its weight in gold.

We are welcomed into the trailer and meet Judy, the owner, and friends Leroy and Tammy. We partake of welcome refreshments and engage in lively plant chats. Judy and Steve rattle off genus and species of the native plants while the rest of us talk over the heat and drought, and the impact this is having on reproduction in the plant world. Still, I am keen to find the purpose of our journey. A

brief silence and Judy grins and asks, "Do you want to see some seed?" Amid a chorus of "Yeahs" the table erupts and we all file back outdoors. The light is still bright on the August evening and the desert has hushed to that expectant breathlessness that encapsulates so many summer nights here. It is, I realize again, beautiful in its intensity and vast merciless ferocity. The plants and animals that survive under these conditions are no less than incredible.

Around the back of the trailer and under the ubiquitous lathe carport enclosure there are huge bins, troughs, and tarp-covered containers. Leroy and Tammy pull back the tarps with a flourish and I am amazed. Unlike my vision of small bits of reproductive fluff, there are pounds and pounds of myriads of desert species. Rabbit Brush, Desert Mallow, Creosote, and legumes galore! It is a huge smorgasbord of native plants, an incredibly viable stock of biodiversity. "There's more back in the shed," Judy remarks casually.

My eyes caress the riches before me and are caught by a very small quantity of red-brown seed the size and shape of a small dried pea. "What are these?" I want to know. Leroy answers, "Those are Desert Four-O-Clocks. They're awful sparse this year." "Can I have a few?" I ask. I can see the look in his eyes. These are valuable to him and collected at great effort. "Yeah, I guess..." He carefully counts 6 seeds out into my hand and I am rich.

It's time for us to go but there is still one more surprise in this trip into low desert of the Mohave. As we round the corner again to the front of the trailer, I make an involuntary cry of discovery and go to my knees on the porch. There, thriving under a decrepit-looking, heat stressed rose is an English Ivy, *Hedera helix*. The plant is growing in a dense, neatly elegant circle of light green, shiny, 3-lobed linear leaves. There isn't a blemish or bleached-out look to it anywhere even though the porch faces full south and the rose isn't good for any shade. "How did this get here?" I ask, as I lightly brush over the perfect waves of green leaves. "Oh that's

been there probably thirty years," Judy replies. "I ripped a whole bunch of it out a couple weeks ago. What is it?" This was, of course, all I needed to launch into a taxonomic orgy of ivy nomenclature. But which variety of the huge number of ivy there are I couldn't answer. So I collected cuttings of the plant to take with me along with my Four-O-Clock seeds. With care, both will grace my garden in Henderson, NV.

As Steve and I drove our treasures home through the desert night, I thought again about how miraculous plants can be in their ability to survive and even thrive in the harshest conditions. Living in the desert makes me appreciate what grows here even more. It's always worth trying something new; that unlikely mystery plant might well be a treasure in the desert.

For Desert Bloom, I'm your Urban Gardener; Julie Padrutt.

Editor's Note: Desert Bloom is a Las Vegas Radio Garden Show aired weekly on Saturday mornings. The Urban Gardener, Julie Padrutt, has a Masters Degree in Horticulture from the University of Minnesota and has gardened around the country.

Some of the desert-collected ivy cuttings were sent to Russell Windle, Assistant Research Director of AIS, and proved to be part of the 'Needlepoint'/'Perfection' Group.





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Commercial Production of English Ivy (*Hedera helix* L.)

Part I. Propagation and Culture

By

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This article is adapted from Extension Bulletin 1206,
Cooperative Extension Service, The University of Georgia.



Introduction by

Suzanne Pierot, President, The American Ivy Society

Introduction

This is Part One of a splendid 4-part article written for the commercial ivy grower by horticulturists from the University of Georgia. The article provides so much helpful information that can be adapted for the home garden that we want to print it in full. The other 3 parts will appear in future issues of *The Ivy Journal*.

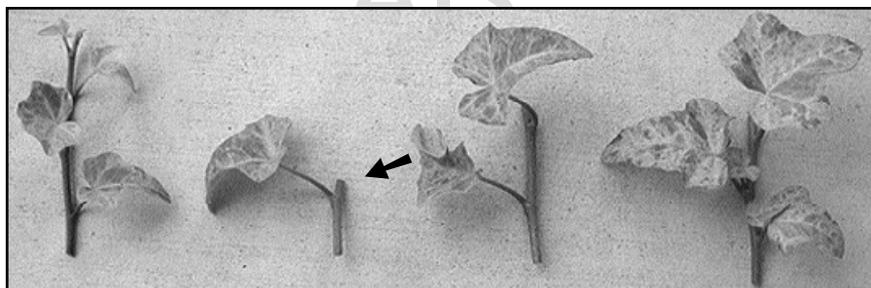
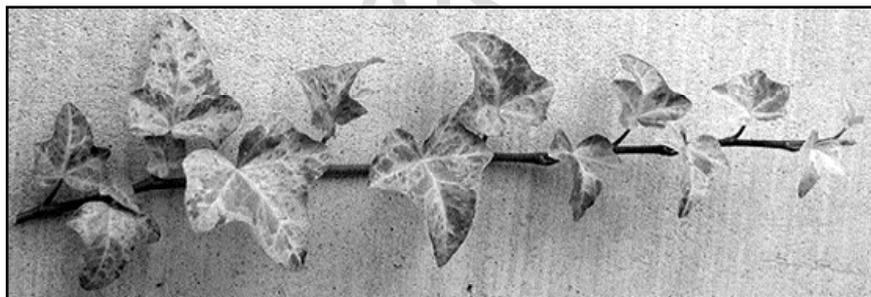
Although authored by four scientists in the Horticulture Department at the University of Georgia, Dr. Bodie Pennisi, was primarily responsible for the article. Dr. Pennisi is Assistant Professor and Extension Floriculture Specialist. She earned her Masters of Science and Doctoral degrees at the University of Florida, majoring in Environmental Horticulture with a minor in Botany. Before that, she spent one year as a grower at the Hermann Engelmann Greenhouses Inc., in Apopka, Fl, where she learned to grow many cultivars of ivy on a large, commercial scale. It was there that her fascination with foliage plants began. In her graduate work, she studied leaf variegation and how it changes in response to environmental and cultural variables, like light, temperature, and nutrition. At home Dr. Pennisi likes to collect plants and get her hands dirty, propagating and growing tropical plants in containers and in the garden.

Dr. Pennisi and her colleagues work as a team to produce Extension publications, which service educate growers on the cultural and economic aspects of various floriculture crops. Dr. Paul Thomas, an Extension Specialist, teaches Greenhouse Crop Production and Interiorscapes; Dr. Jean Woodward is an Extension plant pathologist; Dr. Ron Oetting is a researcher in the Entomology Department; and Dr. Forrest Stegelin is an Extension Specialist who also teaches undergraduate agriculture business classes.

Propagation Techniques

Juvenile ivy can be easily propagated by tip cuttings or node cuttings, the latter yields more cuttings per stock plant and is most common. Single node cutting, also called leaf bud cutting, contains a leaf and a bud, or "eye," while double node cutting contain two leaves and two buds (Fig.1.) The procedure is very simple. One to four foot-long vines taken from stock plants are cut into small pieces each with one leaf (if one-leaf cuttings are used) or two to three leaves (if two-leaf or three-leaf cuttings are used,) making the cut immediately above the leaf and reducing the length of the stem below to about one inch. One popular method of combining cutting and sticking process is to hold the stock vine with one hand, push the bottom one inch of the stem into the propagating medium, make a cut just above the bottom leaf, move the vine in adjacent position in the pot and repeat the process until only the tip of the vine is left. The very tip of the ivy vine is usually discarded. Two-leaf and three-leaf cuttings usually root and grow faster than one-leaf cuttings. Ivy is grown in various size pots: 2 1/4", 2 1/2", 3", 3.5", 4"-pots, and 6" and 8" hanging baskets; one quart and one gallon containers are popular in the landscape industry.

Because juvenile ivy roots readily, rooting hormones are not needed. The grower can decide on the number of cuttings per pot, which can be as few as 5 and as many as 10 for a 4" pot (Fig.2.) Some growers use as many as 10 cuttings per 4" pot, 25 and 50 per 6" and 8" hanging basket, respectively. Number of cuttings used per pot may depend on the cultivar, i.e., fewer for cultivars that branch more freely. Number of cuttings per pot will determine how full or "bushy" the finished plant product is. Naturally, a large number of cuttings per pot will yield a bushier plant. However, fewer than the maximum number of cuttings per pot also will yield an attractive plant. Growers usually stick one to three cuttings per 2 1/4" pots for plants that are used in the landscape industry. Cuttings can be stuck in trays of various cell sizes (for production of liners) or directly into the final container. Some growers maintain their own stock plants, while others purchase unrooted cutting material or rooted liners. The unrooted material is usu-



tip cutting

one-leaf node
cutting

two-leaf node
cutting

three-leaf node
cutting

Figure 1. Ivy vine from the cultivar 'Gold Dust' and the various types of cuttings which can be obtained from it. Notice that there is a small piece of the stem left above the node (a "handle", arrow.)

ally shipped at 60⁰ F and can be stored for an extended time at lower temperatures (35-50⁰ F) without adverse effects on rooting. Some cultivars, however, do not tolerate cool storage well (e.g., 'Ralf', 'Ingrid'.) The grower should experiment with storage in his/her own environment. Vines for propagation also can be cut from ivy baskets one or two times before they are sold. When grown in small containers, plants do not need much room and can be pot to pot until ready for market. Some fast-growing or self-branching cultivars, however, benefit from spacing 2" apart.

Pertlite mixes with good aeration and water-holding capacities are commonly used for propagation and culture of ivy. Desirable pH of the medium is between 6.0 and 6.5. Medium containing some combination of peat, pine bark, perlite, and vermiculite is appropriate. Examples of media are: 50% peat moss: 50% pine bark; and 80% peat moss: 20% perlite. The medium usually will require ammendment with up to 10 lb of dolomite per cubic yard to adjust the pH to about 6.0 to 6.5 (Table 1.) Amount of dolomite will depend on the initial acidity of the medium and the alkalinity and pH of the irrigation water. If the irrigation source has high alkalinity, less dolo-

mite should be used. Refer to Table 2 for recommended alkalinity ranges. A water quality test should be performed on a regular basis (2- 4 times per year), as water quality may vary from season to season, and from one irrigation source to another. Knowledge of water quality also is important during the growing cycle because irrigation water quality affects pH of the medium, which in turn affects availability of various micronutrients.

If desired, pre-plant slow-release fertilizer and a micronutrient charge could be added to the growing medium. To prevent root rot, two fungicide drenches should be applied, one after cuttings are stuck [e.g., ethazol-thiophanate-methyl (Banrot)] and one after they have rooted [e.g., metalaxyl — Subdue.] Freshly-stuck cuttings should be placed under mist 10-15 seconds every 30 minutes from 0800 to 2000 hours in the summer for southern parts of US, and from 0900 to 1700 hours for northern parts of the US; and from 0900 to 1700 hours in the winter in both southern or northern parts of the US. Misting should continue until rooting takes place (2-3 weeks; 4 weeks for complete root development.) During propagation, light levels should be 1200-1500 foot candles (13-16 klux) and temperatures 80-86⁰ F day/60-68⁰ F night. When temperatures rise above 90⁰F, root development and growth is slow.

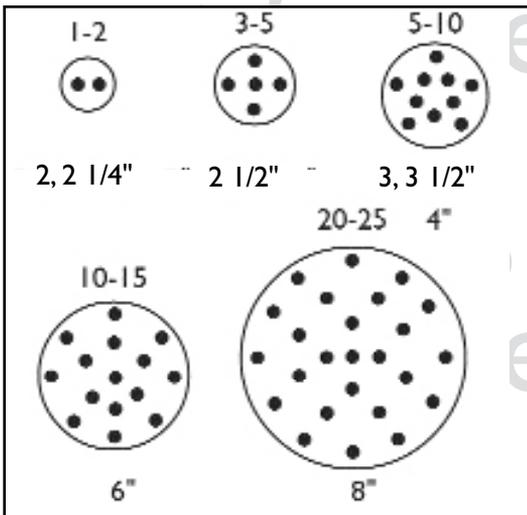


Figure 2. Variable number of cuttings and planting arrangements for various size pots and hanging baskets.

Table 1. Approximate amount of materials required to change pH of soilless potting mixes (adapted from Conover, R.T. and C.A. Poole, 1984, Foliage Digest (vii) 6: 1-6.)

Pounds per cubic yard to change acidity to pH 5.7 for:		
Beginning pH	50% Peat 50% Bark ¹	100% Peat
7.5 ¹	2.0	3.4
7.0	1.5	2.5
6.5	1.0	2.0
5.0 ²	2.5	3.5
4.5	5.6	7.4

¹ Add sulfur or acidifying mixture to lower pH to 5.7

² Add dolomitic lime or equivalent amount of calcium to raise pH to 5.7

Table 2. Recommended irrigation water alkalinity limits for different production systems (adapted from Bailey, D.A., Ch.4. Alkalinity, pH and Acidification, In: Water Media and Nutrition for Greenhouse Crops, Ball Publishing, 1996.)

Container Size	Suggested minimum alkalinity ¹	Suggested maximum alkalinity ²
	me/l	me/l
Small pots and shallow flats	0.75	1.7
4- to 5-inch pots and deep flats	0.75	2.1
6-inch pots and long term crops	0.75	2.6

¹ Consider adding potassium bicarbonate to the irrigation water to at least this level if media pH tends to decline during production.

² Consider acidifying the irrigation water if alkalinity is above this level and if media pH tends to rise during production.

Part II will be published in the next *Ivy Journal*.

Commercial Production of English Ivy (*Hedera helix* L.) Culture



Ivy of the Year 2003 *Hedera helix* 'Golden Ingot'

Hedera helix 'Golden Ingot' has golden yellow leaves with a central area that is splashed with gray and green. The edges of this central coloring are jagged and protrude into the wide, irregular, yellow-to-gold band on the outside. The dark green margin has fused light green flecks throughout with light-colored major veins against the dark greens and grays of the central portion of the leaf. 'Golden Ingot' has medium-large, symmetrical leaves that are basically flat and are 1 to 1-1/4 times as long as wide, with three to five slightly rounded broad lobes merging into a heart-shaped leaf base. It is a good grower but not particularly self-branching.

'Golden Ingot' is distinctive in its narrow, irregular, green margin bounded to the inside by an irregular, wide gold band with a central area splashed with greens and grays. 'Golden Ingot' can be distinguished from other popular yellow cultivars (such as 'Gold Child') because 'Golden Ingot' has an irregular green margin which 'Gold Child' does not have. The green and gray central markings of 'Golden Ingot' have jagged edge whereas the central patch in 'Gold Child' is larger and more uniform. 'Golden Ingot' makes a striking yellow basket plant and can be grown outdoors even in cold climates.

The secret to successful outdoor planting of 'Golden Ingot' and all other variegated ivies is to plant them in lightly shaded areas that are out of winter wind and sun. All ivies should be planted deep into the ground. Remove the lowest 2-4 leaves – or even half the leaves of the above-ground portion. Bury the root ball straight into the ground up to the leaf stalk of the now lowest leaf. This allows the plant to form new roots along the bare portion of the sunken stem, and thus anchor the plant more firmly in the ground. The deeper the roots are in the ground, the less chance of



Hedera helix 'Golden Ingot'.

Photo by Rachel Cobb.

scorching from drought or frost-heaving in winter. It takes about three years for root systems to become well established.



Overview of First HARDINESS TRIALS 1997-2002

By
Suzanne Warner Pierot, AIS President

“Is this ivy hardy?”

How many times have I been asked that question?

It isn't an easy one to answer. There are lots of factors to be taken into consideration beyond the zone you live in, such as exposure (compass direction which the site faces), canopy coverage (amount of shade), and whether there is protection from winter sun and wind (or conversely, from hot, summer sun).

In order to answer it, The American Ivy Society took a two-pronged approach, one more scientific than the other. For the Society's "Ivy of the Year Program", we asked growers, nurserymen, and private gardeners to report their anecdotal experience on popular ivies over a three year period. (See article elsewhere in this Journal on *Hedera helix* 'Golden Ingot', "Ivy of the Year" for 2003.)

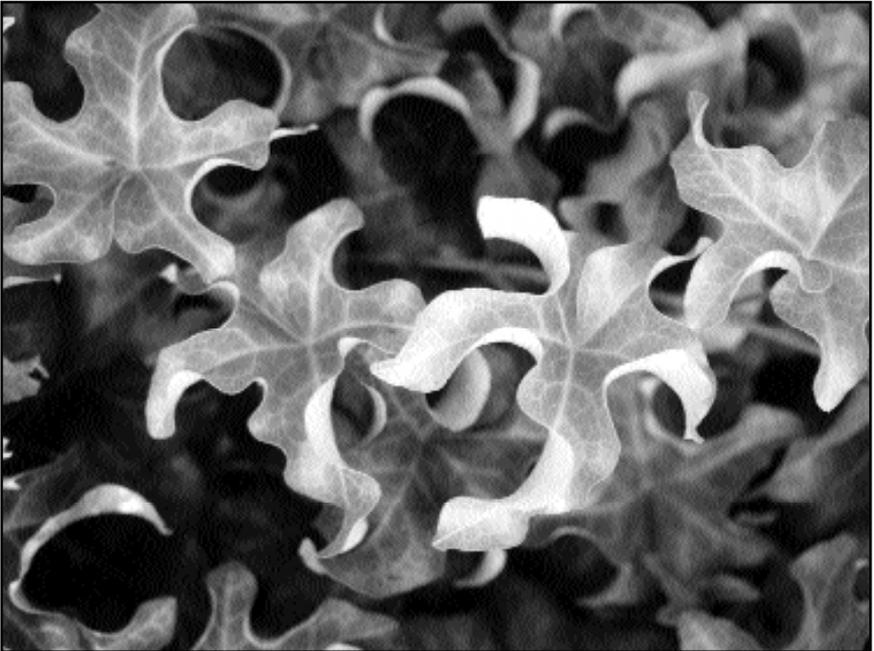
For the scientific approach, we asked botanical gardens across the United States to participate in 5-year hardiness trials of various ivies. Institutions that have completed the first 5-year trials of three cultivars are: Chicago Botanical Garden (Illinois), Dawes Arboretum (Newark, Ohio), Sugar Mill Botanical Gardens (Port Orange, Florida), Lewis Ginter Botanical Gardens (Richmond, Virginia) and Filoli Gardens (Woodside, California). These institutions have also participated in trials of 2 or 3 ivies each succeeding year.

Testing of the first set of ivies in the first trials commenced in 1997. The following descriptions are of the first three ivies which were

evaluated in the hardiness trials. It is to be noted that the winter of 2000-2001 was particularly difficult because the cold came suddenly and early (Nov. 15th) instead of the usual late December or January. Not only ivy but many other perennials suffered or died because the sudden cold snap prevented the plants from adapting naturally to dropping temperatures. The last data for these cultivars is spring 2002.

***Hedera helix* 'Dragon Claw' (C), AIS 88-198**

An eye-catching, curly ivy with grayish-green, puckered, matte leaves with widely fluted edges. In early spring the new leaves may be quite hairy and the margins may be slightly tinged with pink. A vigorous grower with large leaves and very long petioles, it fills in to make a tight, crinkly ground cover. It was discovered in a park in Norfolk, Virginia in the early 1970's, was registered by The American Ivy Society in 1975 and then described in 1977 in the *American Horticulturist* and the *Ivy Journal* in 1982.



Hedera helix 'Dragon Claw' (C), AIS 88-198.

Photo by Rachel Cobb.

***Hedera helix* 'Ritterkreuz' (BF), AIS 81-199**

AIS Outdoor Plant for 1995. A hardy, narrow-lobed ivy that makes a lacy ground cover or it can be used as a perennial with Hosta. It is called 'Ritterkreuz', the German word for Knight's Cross, because the lobes are widest in the middle like a Maltese cross. Discovered in Germany in 1981 and described in *The Ivy Journal* in September 1982, it has appeared since then in the US trade under the names of 'Florida' and 'Victoria's Choice'.



Hedera helix 'Ritterkreuz' (BF), AIS 81-199.

Photo by Rachel Cobb.

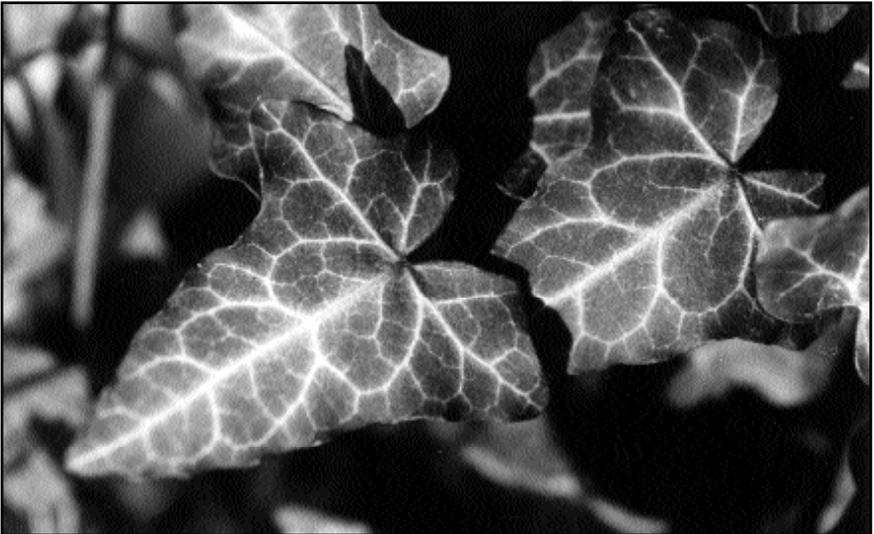
***Hedera helix* 'Tanja' (I), AIS 90-079**

A new US introduction from Holland, 'Tanja' was first collected in the Caucasus Mountains in Turkey in 1979 and brought into cultivation in Holland in 1982. The Brookside Botanic Garden in Wheaton, MD, obtained the plant from Holland in 1985. It has elongated, arrowhead-shaped to three-lobed, dark green leaves with whitish veins that become more conspicuous in winter against the blackish-green winter leaf color. Use 'Tanja' on a wall or

tree to give a neat, shingled effect, or use as a ground cover. Very hardy and fast growing. It has been thriving in AIS trials in Lebanon, Ohio, since 1987, and in a private garden in Zanesville, Ohio, since 1991.

According to early returns of the data on these ivies from participating institutions, at least one ivy planting of each cultivar survived among the three different types of sites selected by each institution.

More specific results and comparisons of the trial ivies, 'Dragon Claw', 'Ritterkreuz', and 'Tanja' will be reported later when the data has been fully evaluated.



Hedera helix 'Tanja' (I), AIS 90-079

Photo by Rachel Cobb.



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2002 New Registrations I:

Hedera helix

‘Sterling Silver’ (V, I)

By

Russell A. Windle

Assistant Director of Research

***Hedera helix* ‘Sterling Silver’ (V, I)** (AIS 92-075); Registration number 0292075, is a silver variegated ivy that was received by the American Ivy Society from Brother Ingobert Heieck of the Neuburg Nursery in 1992.

All cultivars mentioned below are presumed sports of *Hedera helix* unless otherwise noted

History

‘Sterling Silver’ (AIS 92-075); Registration number 0292075, is a variegated (V), Ivy-Ivy (I) ivy cultivar in the Pierot Classification system (Pierot 1974, 1995). The American Ivy Society received this beautiful silver-gray ivy in 1992 from Brother Ingobert Heieck of the Neuburg Nursery, near Heidelberg Germany, under the name ‘Glacier Improved’ (AIS 90-075). Since the name ‘Glacier Improved’ has been applied to various ivies in the Glacier-group (see Sulgrove 1995, 2001), the name ‘Sterling Silver’ was chosen. It is very different from ‘Glacier’ in having virtually no green in the leaves, but has shades of gray and silver.

Description

‘Sterling Silver’ may have been a selection of ‘Glacier’ — or at least looks like a Glacier-type — since the name ‘Glacier Improved’ was applied to this ivy. The leaf shape and variegation pattern is similar to what is seen in ‘Glacier’, although the color combinations are different.

Leaves are medium-sized, three-to five-lobed with a heart-shaped base. There is an irregular, wide, white margin with a center in shades of gray and silver. When the leaves first emerge there is some green-gray coloration in the center of the leaf but this fades to silver and gray as the leaf expands.

'Sterling Silver' is a moderately self-branching ivy. If left uncut it will form long trailing vines. However if lightly trimmed, it will branch more freely.

The other unique quality of this ivy is its vigor, despite the essential lack of any green coloration. Most ivies with so little green in the leaves tend to be weak and slow growing. 'Sterling Silver' roots as easily as most variegated ivies and the growth rate is comparable.

Similar Cultivars

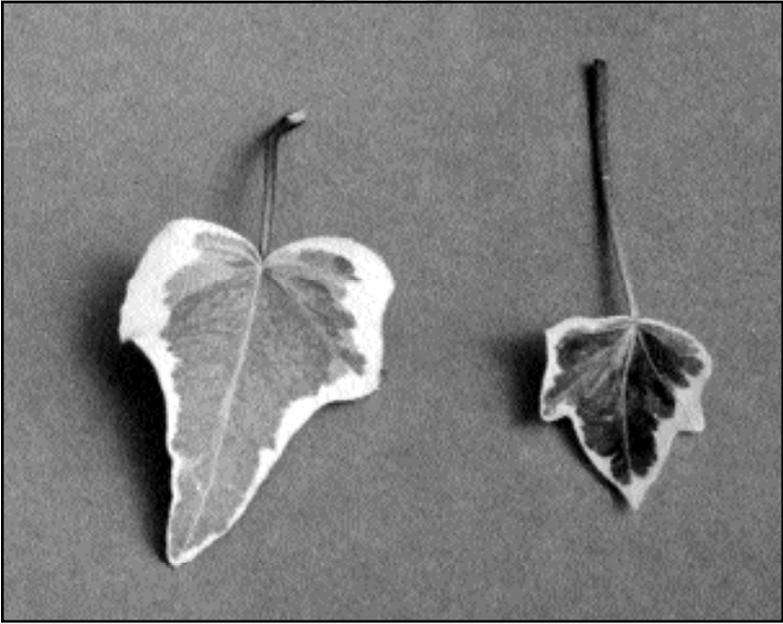
'Glacier' (AIS 88-208; LG 630106), 'Hahn Variegated' (AIS 92-068), and 'Ardingly' (AIS 88-017) (Hedera etc 2001) are ivies in the Glacier-group (Sulgrove 1995, 2001) that are similar to 'Sterling Silver' in overall habit and growth characteristics, except 'Ardingly' which is a Miniature in the Pierot Classification System (Pierot 1974 1995). They all have a green-gray center with an irregular white margin. 'Sterling Silver' differs in having a wider white margin and an essentially silver-gray center.

Uses

It is very useful as a pot plant and is good for medium-sized topiaries and baskets. Winter hardiness has not been tested.

Sources

'Sterling Silver' is available from Hedera etc., P.O. Box 461, Lionville, PA 19353-0461.



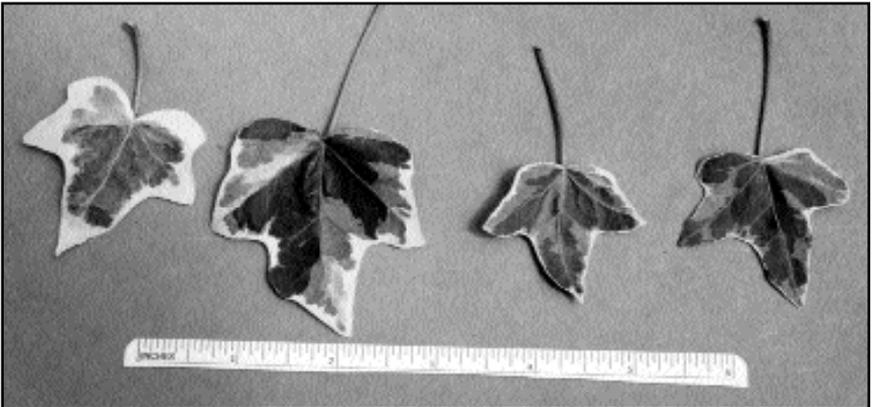
Above: New Registrations I: Figure 2. Left to right; comparison of mature leaf to young leaf, notice the darker green coloration in the newly emerged leaf to the pale silver gray coloration of the mature, fully expanded leaf.

Photo of greenhouse-grown plant, April 2002, by Russell A. Windle.

not for reprint

Below: New Registrations I: Figure 3. Left to Right; comparison of 'Sterling Silver', 'Glacier', 'Ardingly', and 'Hahn Variegated'.

Photo of greenhouse-grown plants, April 2002, By Russell A. Windle.



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2002 New Registrations II:

Hedera helix 'Courage' (V, BF) and Its "Parent," 'Maple Leaf'

By
Dr. Sabina Mueller Sulgrove
Registrar

When a new ivy is registered, it is photographed and described in detail in the *Ivy Journal*. This is done in order that the correct name be associated with a specific ivy. In addition, a herbarium specimen is made, and deposited in the Willard Sherman Turrell Herbarium (MU), Department of Botany, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio 454045; and in the Claude E. Phillips Herbarium (DOV), Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Dover, Delaware 19901-2277.

The letter(s) used in parentheses after the cultivar name refer(s) to the Pierot Classification System (Pierot 1974, 1995; American Ivy Society 1997). Registration numbers are coded. The first two digits refer to the year that the cultivar was registered. The middle pair of digits refers to the year the ivy was first received. The last three digits indicate the sequential numbering during the year that the ivy was received. All cultivars mentioned below are presumed sports of *Hedera helix* unless otherwise noted.

History

***Hedera helix* 'Courage' (V, BF)** (AIS 2000-012 and 2000-061) (Registration Number 0200012) is a new, gold-edged, sport of 'Maple Leaf', and is photographed in Figure 1. It is similar in size and shape to 'Maple Leaf' (Sulgrove 1984b) but has additional chartreuse to gold coloring along the margin.

The American Ivy Society first received the original, green 'Maple Leaf' (AIS 83-066) (Sulgrove 1984b) from Br. Ingobert Heieck, of

the Stift Neuburg Monastery Nursery, Heidelberg, Germany in 1983, and then again in 1984 (AIS 84-011). The leaves of 'Maple Leaf' (Heieck 1983) are said to resemble in size and shape of the Silver Maple, *Acer saccharinum*, a maple with wider lobes and more teeth than 'Courage'. Heieck (1983) also compares 'Maple Leaf' to the Big Leaf Maple, *Acer macrophyllum*, but *Acer macrophyllum*, like *A. saccharinum*, is quite variable often having wide-lobed leaves or narrower ones similar to 'Maple Leaf'. In October of 2000 Emily Barbee, ivy propagator and Section Head at Riverbend Nursery, Riner, Virginia 24149, sent a sport (AIS 2000-012) that was found in their stock of 'Maple Leaf' that had a gold edge but the same leaf shape. The American Ivy Society Research Center also picked out a gold-edge sport of 'Maple Leaf' (AIS 2000-061) from Riverbend stock of 'Maple Leaf'.

Description

The leaves of 'Courage' (Figure 2) are very large, coarsely star-shaped with 5 to 7 long, narrow, asymmetrically sharp-toothed lobes and an elongated terminal lobe. The terminal lobe can be up to 4 or more times as long as wide. The lateral lobes are long, often half the length of the terminal lobe. The leaves are very large for a cultivar of *Hedera helix* — more than 2 inches in length (not including the petiole) — and they may be 4-7 inches long (under greenhouse conditions in a winter greenhouse in eastern Pennsylvania). The petioles are very long, from 1 to 2x as long as the leaf blade, resulting in some leaves with petioles 4 or more inches long. The size of the leaves of 'Courage' are roughly the same size as those of its "parent," 'Maple Leaf'. The newest leaves at any given time have the most number of teeth.

Because of the long length of the lobes and the asymmetry of the teeth, the leaves of 'Courage' are lightly asymmetrically-curved upward or downward – but not enough for this ivy to be considered a Curly (Pierot 1974, 1995) in the Pierot Classification System.

The newest leaves will have margins of bright gold (in winter),

to chartreuse (under lower light levels or higher temperatures.) (Windle 2002) There is often more gold in the teeth and in the basal lobes. Under cool conditions, the terminal lobe may have one to three asymmetrically-placed, sharply-pointed teeth on the terminal lobe alone or on the lateral lobes as well. The summer leaves are only 5-lobed, but the lobes are wider, not as long, and there are fewer, less prominent teeth. This reduction in the number of lobes and their length in the summer and widening of the lobes is characteristic of the Bird's Foot ivies, as also exemplified by 'Asterisk' (Sulgrove 1983) and 'Lalla Rookh' (Sulgrove 1984a). Variation in the intensity of the variegation (light colors other than green) is common in all variegated ivies. (See Sulgrove 1989).

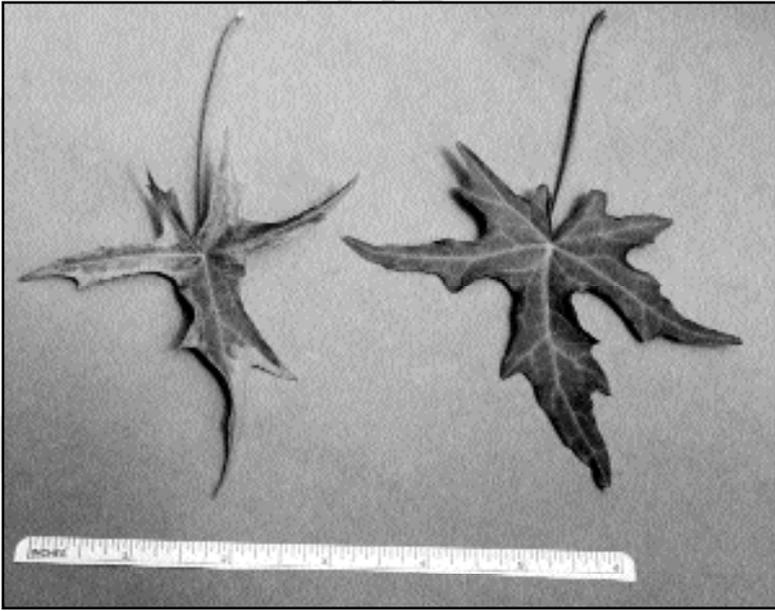
The plants produce long, leggy vines where the space between the leaves is 2 or more inches apart. Although the plant is self-branching, the vines are so vigorous that the stems are only partially clothed by foliage.

Distinctive Characteristics; Similar Ivies

'Courage' and 'Maple Leaf' are both recognized by the very large, coarsely star-shaped, narrow-lobed, asymmetrically sharp-toothed leaves on vigorous vines. 'Courage' differs from its "parent" by having a chartreuse-to-gold edging. There are no other very large, green, Bird's Foot ivies that have a gold edge. 'Asterisk' (Sulgrove 1982) is also a large, star-shaped ivy with teeth on the lobes, but the leaves are smaller and the plants are much more refined in appearance. The lobes of 'Asterisk' only have an occasional, rounded tooth or mere projection.

Uses

'Courage' makes bold, exotic, eye-catching baskets. Because of its vigorous growth habit, 'Courage' should be tested for outdoor hardiness in all climates, both as a wall cover and on fences of various materials.



Sources

'Sterling Silver' is available from Hedera etc., P.O. Box 461, Lionville, PA 19353-0461.

New Registrations II: Figure 1. Left to Right; comparison of 'Courage', and 'Maple Leaf'

Photo of greenhouse-grown plant, April 2002, By Russell A. Windle

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New Registrations II:
Figure 2. *Hedera helix*
'Courage'. (AIS 2000-061; Registration
Number 0200012). 'Courage' is recognized
by the gold-edged, very large, coarsely star-
shaped,
narrow-lobed leaves on vigorous vines. Note
that
the newest, smallest leaves at the tip are nar-
rower-lobed and have more, sharply-
pointed teeth than the older, larger leaves.
It is rare for ivies to have teeth, espe-

Life-size scan of vines from a winter basket from
an eastern Pennsylvania greenhouse,
by Sabina M. Sulgrove, February 28, 2002.



2002 Brief New Registrations

The Following Variegated Ivies are all Registered

By

Jim Maddux

Heritage International, LLC

Camarillo, CA

Text is written by Sabina Mueller Sulgrove, Registrar, from details provided by Jim Maddux who obtained the history of these ivies from growers in Denmark. Descriptions are based on container-grown plants from southern coastal California. Additional descriptive details were provided by Russell A. Windle, Hedera etc Nursery, Lionville, PA.

All cultivars listed are forms of *Hedera helix* unless otherwise noted.

The following ivies have been accepted as new Registrations. These cultivars have met the criteria for Registration: distinctiveness, stability, and ease of propagation. Sufficient stock has been produced to ensure survival of the cultivar. The initials in parentheses following the cultivar name refers to the Pierot Classification System, which is described in Suzanne Pierot's 1974, *The Ivy Book*, (Macmillan 1974; Garden by the Stream 1995), and in the American Ivy Society publication, "Knowing and Growing Ivy" (1997).

The following six variegated ivies were imported in June 2000 from Gartneriet Maegaard, Ringe, Denmark, by Jim Maddux of Heritage International, Camarillo, California 93010. At that time Jim Maddux began to propagate these cultivars. All are submitted for registration by Jim Maddux, who corresponded with Lars Pedersen, the son-in-law of Frode Maegaard who, in turn, is the proprietor of the Maegaard Nursery. Lars Pedersen provided the history of these ivies and gave the approval to register them. Except where noted, these new Registrations were named (bold face type) by Jim Maddux.

Production cycles refer to propagation of 4-inch pots from start to finish in Camarillo, California (southern coastal California).

It is believed, according to the Maegaard Nursery, that these are the first published descriptions of these ivies.

All ivies registered below are forms of *Hedera helix* .

Celebrity (V, I). (AIS 2000-035)

Registration Number 0200035

'Celebrity' is a variegated gray and white ivy that has been grown since 1982 by the Gartneriet Maegaard, Denmark, under the name, 'Mini White Wonder'. It apparently was discovered as a greenhouse mutation in Denmark. It is a small-leaved, self-branching ivy, with three rounded lobes that are as wide as long. The terminal lobe is acute but with a rounded tip; the leaf bases are heart-shaped. The variegation is cream-to-white on the margin with shades of green-to-gray in the center, with more variegation at the base of the leaves. The variegation is like that of 'Eva', and fades to light green at low light levels. 'Celebrity' is a small-leaved sport that was selected out of 'White Wonder' which, in turn, was a variegated mutation from 'Wonder'. Apparently it is difficult to maintain as a small-leaved cultivar indistinguishable from 'White Wonder'. As far as is known, the name 'Mini-White Wonder' has never been published. 'Celebrity' is a moderate grower:



Brief Registrations. Figure 1 *Hedera helix* 'Celebrity'. (AIS 2000-035; Registration Number 0200035) Close up of stem.

Photo of greenhouse-grown plant, April 2002, By Russell A. Windle.



Brief Registrations. Figure 2 *Hedera helix* 'Snow Cap'. (AIS 2000-028; Registration Number 0200028)

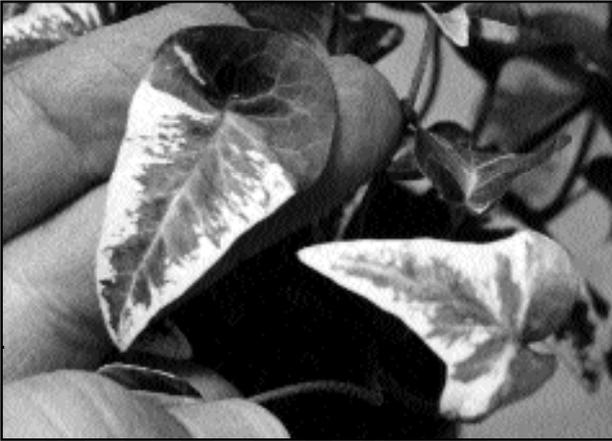
Photo of greenhouse-grown plant, April 2002, By Russell A. Windle.

Snow Cap (V) (AIS 2000-028)

Registration Number 0200028

'Snow Cap', (Figure 2), was discovered by Henning Nicolaisen in Denmark between 1986 and 1988, and has been grown by the Gartneriet Maegaard, Denmark, since 1988 under the name 'Hivid Mein Hertz'. This variegated, somewhat self-branching, unlobed ivy has a white background with dark-green blotches and streaking at the base of the blade and along the main vein and paler green coloring extending out from the dark green when the leaves are fully expanded. New growth may be lime green. Fully developed leaves are overall similar to 'Gavotte' with ovate leaves 1-1/2 to 3-1/2 times as long as wide, unlobed, or with an odd basal lobe, or occasionally three-lobed. Interestingly, some of the leaves are peltate, (Figure 3), that is, the leaf stalk is attached not at the

base of the blade but rather in from the rounded edge of the leaf, in a similar way to the leaves in *Nasturtium*, but not centered. Whether this is a merely seasonal characteristic of 'Snow Cap' or whether this characteristic can be propagated as a separate, stable mutation, remains to be seen. 'Hivid Mein Hertz' ("Variegated My Heart") is a variegated sport of 'Mein Hertz', a European-named cultivar similar to 'Gavotte' (Sulgrove 1986). As far as is known, the name 'Hivid Mein Herz' has never been published. 'Snow Cap' is a slow-grower.



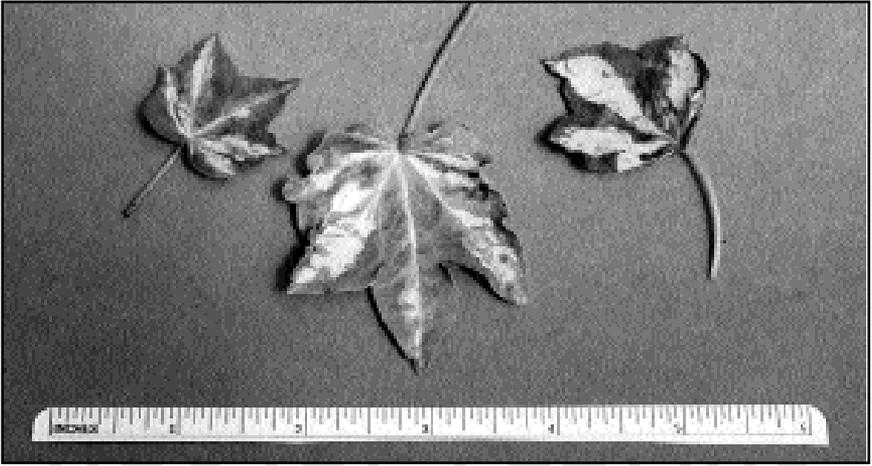
Brief Registrations.
Figure 3 *Hedera helix*
'Snow Cap'.
(AIS 2000-028;
Registration Number
0200028) Close up
of Peltate leaf.

Photo of
greenhouse-
grown plant,
April 2002,
By Russell A. Windle.

Danish Crown (V) (AIS 2000-041)

Registration Number 0200041

This gold-variegated ivy, (Figure 4), was discovered by Frode Maegaard, Ringe, Denmark, in 1995 as a sport of 'Golden Ingot' (Sulgrove 1997), and has been sold by the nursery under the name 'Gold Finger' since 1995. [Editor's note: 'Gold Finger' is also a name applied to other ivies, such as 'Goldstern' (Rose 1996)]. The variegation consists of gold streaks that follow the veins. The leaves are small, almost circular and cupped under (possibly due to fasciation) in partly expanded leaves, wider than long, with an irregular margin. As the leaves mature they flatten out and become more ivy shaped with 5 lobes. The leaf surface is puckered. 'Danish Crown' is a slow grower.



Brief Registrations. Figure 4. *Hedera helix* 'Danish Crown' (AIS 2000-041; Registration Number 0200041) Close-up of leaves, notice how the variegation follows the main veins.

Photo of greenhouse-grown plant, April 2002, By Russell A. Windle.

Golden Starlight (V, F) AIS 2000-042) Registration Number 0200042

'Golden Starlight', (Figure 5), is a gold-variegated, fan-shaped ivy, wider-than-long small-leaved, with 5-7 forward-pointing, sharply-pointed lobes. The variegation consists of an irregular gold margin with the gold portion widest at the tips of the teeth (lobes). The veins are prominently raised above the leaf surface. It is reported to have been discovered by Henrik Boniokke in Denmark in 1998 as a sport of 'Golden Mathilde'. 'Golden Starlight' has been seen to revert to a 'Gold Child'-type leaf shape and variegation.

'Golden Starlight' has been known in the United States as 'Yellow Ripple' and was acquired by the American Ivy Society under this name in December 1995 (AIS 96-029) from Fibrex Nursery, England, and from the Philadelphia Flower Show in February 1996 (AIS 96-015). As far as is known, the name 'Golden Starlight' has never been published. 'Golden Starlight' is a moderate grower.



Brief Registrations. Figure 5 *Hedera helix* 'Golden Starlight', (AIS 2000-042; Registration Number 0200042) Close-up of leaves, showing variation in leaf shape.

Photo of greenhouse-grown plant, April 2002, By Russell A. Windle

Classy Lassie (V, I) AIS 2000-040)

Registration Number 0200040 (syn. Golden Jytte)

'Classy Lassie', (Figure 6), is a gold-variegated ivy that was originally discovered by Ebbe Storm as a sport of 'Golden Heart' ('Gold Heart'??) in Denmark in 1996, and sold since that time by Gartneriet Maegaard under the name 'Golden Jytte'. As far as is known, the name 'Golden Jytte' has never been published.

The leaves are typical-ivy-shaped with mostly three lobes, and the terminal lobe slightly longer than the laterals. Leaves are about as wide as long. The gold center is gold and cream, bordered by a light green, which in turn is adjacent to the dark green irregular margin. The plants are self-branching. The gold center is very

constant and is still evident after two years in the ground. 'Classy Lassie' is a moderate grower.

US Editor's Note: The fact that 'Classy Lassie' and 'Danish Crown' have the exact same coloration suggests that they may be related.



Brief Registrations. Figure 6 *Hedera helix* 'Classy Lassie'. (AIS 2000-040; Registration Number 0200040) Close up of leaves showing distinctive variegation pattern.

Photo of greenhouse-grown plant, April 2002, By Russell A. Windle.

Silver Butterfly (BF,O) AIS 2000-043)

Registration Number 0200043

This odd-looking ivy, (Figure 7), was discovered in the Gartneriet Maegaard, Denmark in 1997 as a sport of 'Ingelise' (also spelled Ingeliz, Ingrid Liz) and has been known as 'Silver Butterfly'. 'Silver Butterfly' is a small Bird's Foot ivy with 3 to 5 lobes with the terminal lobe being slightly longer than the laterals. The variegation is shades of gray-green in the center and an irregular, narrow, cream-to-white margin. Color is most intense under good light. The leaf has a dip in the blade where the petiole is attached (as in "Marie-Luise). Sometimes the blade is divided into narrow leaflets; other



Brief Registrations Figure 7 *Hedera helix* 'Silver Butterfly'. (AIS 2000-034; Registration 0200034) Close up of leaves showing variation in leaf shape.

Photo of greenhouse-grown plant, April 2002, By Russell A. Windle.

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Contact The American Ivy Society for complete list.

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AMERICAN IVY SOCIETY GREEN HOUSE TESTING PROGRAM

By
Charles W. Dunham

We have reached the completion of the 5th series of greenhouse evaluations and over 10 years of the Greenhouse Testing Program. At the time that the program was started, many ivies registered by the AIS and described in the Ivy Journal, were not finding their way to commercial growers and were not available to ivy enthusiasts. The program was initiated to remedy this and at the same time help commercial growers find new ivies useful for their trade. Growers were sent a pot of ivy with well developed runners which they were to propagate and evaluate and then serve as either a retail or wholesale source. The evaluations were also to provide some indications of the value and performance of the ivies under different growing conditions and different areas of the country and to determine possible uses. The program has been supported by a small group of dedicated commercial growers who are all members of AIS.

The selections for the program have included new registrations and older ones that the selection committee felt needed more exposure. Following is a list of the ivies included in the program to date.

- 1st group (Anita, Maureena and Temptation)
- 2nd group (Tripod, Mariposa and Lady Francis)
- 3rd group (Golden Snow, Melanie and Mrs. Ulin)
- 4th group (Egret, Symmetry and Tenerife)
- 5th group (Baden Baden, *H. hibernica* Aracena
and *H. nepalensis* Suzanne)
- 6th group now under test (Goldfinch, Shadow and
Touch of Class)

The results of the 5th group, reported here, include for the first time species other than *Hedera helix*. The descriptions of these ivies were taken from Russ Windle's *Hedera Etc.* catalog.

Hedera helix 'Baden Baden': classification birdfoot. The largest of the Needle Point group, was selected in Germany. Leaves three to five lobes with lobes pointing forward. Color mid-to-dark green; self-branching.

Hedera hibernica 'Aracena': classification heart shaped. This unusual form of *H. hibernica* was found in Spain in 1977. A 'Pastuchovii' like *Hibernica*. Leaves barely three lobed to heart shaped. The thick, leathery, dark green, glossy leaves have pale, yellow green veins becoming silver gray with age. Because of a high anthocyanin content, new growth and winter color is a deep burgundy.

Hedera nepalensis 'Suzanne': classification bird-foot. Leaves three lobed. Terminal lobe extremely long. Veins with diffused grayish white color.

The criteria used in the evaluations by each participant were as follows:

EASE OF PROPAGATION: easy, fast desirable

RATE OF GROWTH: fast desirable

PESTICIDE AND FERTILIZER NEEDS: low requirements desirable

OVERALL APPEARANCE AND UNIQUENESS: pleasing habit and color but different from other ivies desirable

The test scores obtained from the evaluations submitted by the growers have been converted to a scale of 0 to 100 with a score of 50 being average compared to the general run of ivies that the grower is currently growing. The higher the score above 50, the more favorable the evaluation. Of course all of the scores refer to the performance of the ivies under greenhouse conditions, and

some ivies that perform poorly in these tests may be terrific outdoor or landscape ivies.

RATINGS FOR THE 5TH GREENHOUSE IVY TESTS (The higher the score the more favorable the rating)

	ARACENA	BADEN BADEN	SUZANNE
Ease of propagation	51	64	50
Rate of growth	57	60	50
Disease insect control, fertilizer	65	60	51
Overall appearance uniqueness	74	64	54

None of the ivies in this group were deemed by the grower panel to have potential for wide commercial use, although 'Baden Baden' may find a niche as it is easy to propagate, fast growing and self-branching. The most attractive ivy of the group appeared to be *Hedera hibernica* 'Aracena' with a kind of mottled veination and, although it was not self-branching, made a distinctive pot plant when it was cut back.

The overall impact of this program for The American Ivy Society has been to make a few cultivars more familiar and available for both commercial and amateur growers. It has given added emphasis to the fact that different ivies have characteristics that make them more suitable for some uses than others; and to the fact that all ivies do not grow equally well in different parts of the country and different growing conditions.

Evaluators have their own criteria for evaluating ivies according to their own needs, uses, and growing methods. It is apparent that to some extent, the beauty of ivy — like beauty itself — is sometimes in the eye of the beholder.

Sources

Hedera etc., Box 461, Lionville, PA 19353-0541

e-mail hedera@worldnet.att.net

All three cultivars.

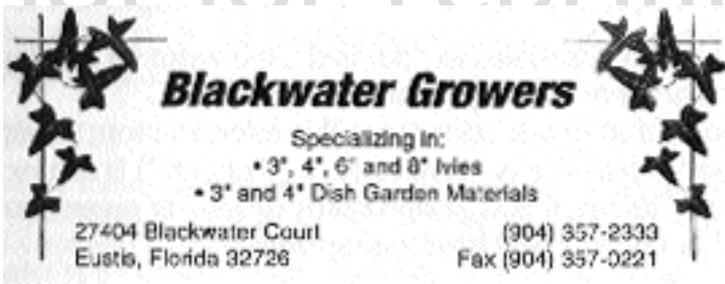
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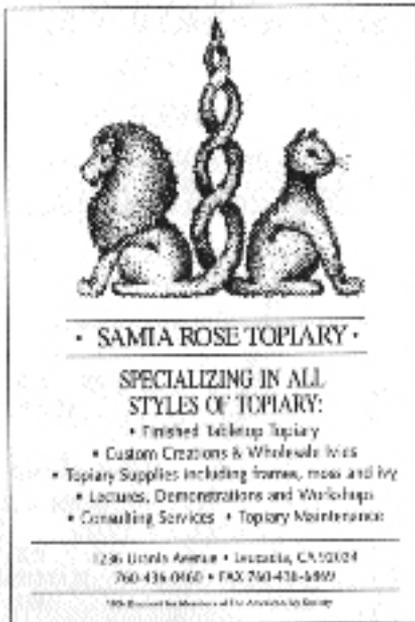


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Walking Stick

By Vincent Lazaneo
University of California County Extension

Pat Hammer, Samia Rose Topiary

Last summer, a call came in to Samia Rose and the staff immediately decided it was too weird for them and I should handle it. The voice on the other end of the line began by saying, "This is going to sound weird but I have all these sticks and they are eating my ivies!" That did sound strange but I was familiar with an insect that was about 3" long and looked like a stick — commonly called "walking stick." My recollection was from my college Entomology class way back in the dark ages. I do remember finding them when I lived in the Northeast, but they were never around in any numbers and it was a rare treat to see one of these magnificent creatures that resemble a small twig with legs. But I never thought of them as plant eating pests.

My first reaction was that this lady might have army worms eating her ivy, such as the army worms we find on petunias and geraniums every summer. They have ferocious appetites and seem to like ivy nearly as much as geraniums. I was surprised to learn that walking sticks were found even in California and I was sure these prehistoric looking insects from the *Phasmatidae* family could not possibly be eating her ivy - but she insisted.

I gave our customer the name and number of our University of California County Extension Horticulture Advisor, Vince Lazaneo and suggested she call him. Not much more thought was given to this rare insect occurrence and I was still sure she was mistaken. But then a week or two later I got call that some thing weird was eating another of our customer's ivies. Walking sticks were eating ivies at the sea coast of San Diego County and I had to call Vince myself.

Even though this infestation was very rare, Vince was not surprised as he had call from a resident of La Jolla, a seaside city just north handled of San Diego. And, there was another infestation of walking sticks in the city of Arroyo Grande in the County of San Luis Obispo. There the county agricultural personnel found about 25 sites with insects present in about a 4 block radius. Nearly 130 sites showing damage were surveyed but nothing outside of the 4 block core area. The insect was identified as an Indian stick insect, *Carausus morosus*. My understanding is that this type of walking stick is mostly found in tropical areas. They occur more often in the South but there are some types in the North.

In a press release dated August 2001, Horticulture Advisor Lazaneo had this to say about the walking stick:

“Anyone who finds a walking stick in their yard is encouraged to submit specimens to the County Agriculture Department. Careful examination is needed to distinguish the Indian stick insect from other species that are native in California.

Walking sticks can be controlled by spraying infested plants with a residual insecticide. Bayer Rose and Flower Insect Killer is effective for about a month and can be used on a variety of ornamental plants. If edible plants are sprayed be sure the product you use lists the plants you want to treat on the label. Also check how long you must wait after treatment before the crop can be harvested.

Walking sticks are insects in the family *Phasmatidea*. Adults are usually wingless and have very long slender bodies and legs. Walking sticks resemble twigs in appearance and they feed on plant foliage.

Indian stick insects feed on a variety of plant species and prefer ivy, privet, blackberries and other brambles (*Rubus*). Other hosts which the insect has fed on in the La Jolla area include camellia, rose, hawthorn, azalea, geranium and hibiscus. Adults eat plant foliage but are difficult to see during the day because of their

cryptic shape, coloration and tendency to remain motionless. Indian stick insects are relatively large and measure from 3 to 4 inches in length when mature and vary in color from light green to dark brown. Adults have a characteristic red mark at the base of the first pair of legs. Nearly all of the insects are female which reproduce without mating. Females typically live six months and lay about 700 eggs during their life span. Eggs are produced continuously and dropped onto the soil surface beneath the host plant. The eggs' incubation period depends on temperature and can range from one to seven months.

Because of its large size and ease of rearing, the Indian stick insect is commonly maintained in culture for both laboratory experimentation and in science classrooms for teaching purposes. It has also been sold, sometimes illegally, in pet stores. Although the species is legal to keep in Europe, a permit is required both in the United States and Canada because of the insect's pest potential."



Walking Stick hanging upside down from twig.

Photo by Rachel Cobb.





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PROPOSED SLATE OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

2003-2004 TERM OF OFFICE

Officers and Directors will be voted on by the membership at the American Ivy Society annual meeting in San Diego CA, October 22-26, 2002

CURRENT TERMS WILL EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2002.

Officers

Membership Chairperson:

Susan Cummings, Bowie, MD – declined re-nomination

Vicki Metzger, Gambrills, MD – declined re-nomination

Membership Chairperson Nominee:

Laurie Perper, Silver Spring, MD

Directors

Incumbents:

Patricia Hammer, Encinitas, CA

Daphne Pfaff, Naples FL

Justine Combs, Atlanta, GA – declined re-nomination

Roger Mower, Gladwyne, PA – declined re-nomination

Ed Olsen, Richmond VA

Nominees:

Rosa Capps, Stone Mountain GA

Susan Cummings, Bowie, MD

President Pierot has re-appointed Dr. Sabina Sulgrove for a 4-year term as Director of Research, 2003-2006 Term

Nominating Committee

Peggy Redding, Chairperson



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