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American Ivy Society
P. O. Box 163
Deerfield, NJ 08313

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Laurie Perper
512 Waterford Road
Silver Spring, MD, 20901

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The American Ivy Society
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Photo by Rachel Cobb

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

SPECIFIC IVY QUESTIONS

Growing Ivy Outdoors
Dr. Sabina Mueller Sulgrove
2624 Center Creek Circle
Spring Valley, OH 45370-9000

Judging Standards
The American Ivy Society
P. O. Box 163
Deerfield, NJ 08313
www.ivy.org

AIS CHAPTERS

Atlanta Chapter
Contact: Rosa B. Capps
575 Milligan Drive
Stone Mountain, GA
30083-4055

Eastern Chapter:
Contact: R. A. Windle
P.O. Box 461, Lionville, PA 19353

San Diego Chapter
Contact: Pat Hammer
P.O. Box 23-1208
Encinitas, CA 92023

Ontario Chapter
Contact: Barbara Furlong
26 Alcaine Ct.
Thornhill (Markham)
Ontario, Canada L3T 2G7

New York State Chapter
Contact: Veronica Dapp
4036 Willodale Ave.
Blasdell, NY 14219-2722

Buffalo Botanical Garden
2655 South Park Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14218

REGIONAL IVY COLLECTIONS

California
Filoli Center
National Trust for Historic Preservation
86 Cañada Road
Woodside, CA 94062
Phone 650-364-8300

Florida
Sugar Mill Botanic Gardens
950 Old Sugar Mill Road
Port Orange, FL 32119
Phone 904-788-3645

Maryland
Brookside Gardens
1500 Glenallan Avenue
Wheaton, MD 20902
Phone 301-929-6509

New York
Buffalo & Erie County
Botanical Gardens
2655 South Park Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14218
Phone (716) 827-1584

Illinois
Chicago Botanic Gardens
Hardiness Trials
1000 Lake Cook Road
Glencoe, IL 60022
Phone 847-835-5440
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We are very excited and proud to publish 125 of the extraordinary line-drawings of *Hedera helix* done by Garry Grueber while working with Brother Ingobert Heieck in 1979.

Br. Ingobert was a Benedictine monk at the Neuburg Abbey near Heidelberg, Germany who had extensive ivy gardens, did all the research work on ivy of the 1970’s and is the most respected ivy scholar in modern times.

Garry Grueber in 1979 was a University student who had a one-year internship at the Abbey with Brother Ingobert. Living by all the monastery rules, although not a Catholic himself, he ate with the monks in the refectory, during which time it was forbidden to speak. Silence continued after dinner in his tiny room where neither TV or radio was permitted. To pass the time Garry, who enjoyed drawing, would bring one ivy to his room and spend the evening sketching it as perfectly as he could so it would pass Brother Ingobert’s inspection. Over time, he amassed hundreds of drawings.

Here is the story of how I got the line-drawings.

By chance I came across a copy of *Hedera Sorten*, Br. Ingobert’s privately published book in German describing his ivy work. Very few copies of this book still exist. I knew of it but had only seen a “sort-of” translation by Alison Rutherford which did not purport to be an exact translation of *Hedera Sorten* but rather the translation of the 1983 Tutorial Thesis by Garry Grueber. Since Grueber worked so closely with Br. Ingobert the Thesis was considered to be a “translation”. In 1987 the American Ivy Society privately published a few copies of the thesis in both English and German.

However, when I got the copy of the original book in German, I was stunned to see there were several hundred beautiful line-drawings of ivy—drawings that were horticulturally correct and approved by Br. Ingobert himself. All had been done by Garry Grueber while an apprentice and none of the drawings were in the Tutorial Thesis. I realized what a “find” these drawings were—and set about to locate Grueber to get permission to use them. (Br. Ingobert died in July 1993).

I learned that over the intervening years, Grueber had become an important name in the horticultural world specializing in development of new ornamental species for the floriculture industry. He co-founded “Proven Winners”, one of the most respected plant brands in the international industry. He has recently founded...
“Cultivaris” a horticulture company that offers ideas and project management in the international green industry.

In these pages you will find 125 of the Grueber line-drawings that were used to illustrate *Hedera Sorten*. Accompanying the drawings are short captions describing each ivy and to which Pierot Classification it belongs. Most of the descriptions are from Russell Windle’s “Hedera etc.” catalog with additional descriptions from ivy authors, Peter Rose and Hazel Key. Some of the drawings from Br. Ingobert’s book have been eliminated because the ivy no longer exists. But all in all, the publication of these line drawings is an important addition to the ivy world’s resources.

When I obtained Garry Grueber’s permission to re-print his drawings, I also asked him to write an article explaining how they came about. It is quite an eye-opener. You will find it in the next pages.

Brother Ingobert (L) with Garry Grueber in the USA in 1981
I met Br. Ingobert back in 1979—I had been looking for a horticultural internship or apprenticeship in the field of floriculture, preferably in the Heidelberg area, since that was where I lived at the time, after moving from Long Island to Germany in 1975 with my parents. The Neuburg Abbey’s nursery just happened to be on the list of nurseries that were authorized to take on apprentices, so I applied. I received a phone call shortly thereafter, inviting me to visit for an interview. I rather naively didn’t even think very much about the fact that this might be an active monastery – there are so many former medieval monasteries in Europe that are now private schools, hotels, restaurants, etc. One can imagine my surprise when the front gate of the monastery was opened by a tall, rather gaunt-looking monk in a long black habit and a shorn head! He took me on an extensive tour of the fairly small nursery, explaining about how he had absolved his apprenticeship at this nursery many years ago and later decided to become a monk as well. He spoke with a heavy southern German accent, since he was born and raised in Palatinate, about an hour southwest of Heidelberg, close to the border to France. I was fascinated by the nursery, with the diversity of ivies that I had never thought possible and decided right away to accept for a one-year internship. After the initial year there, I had considered extending my internship into a formal apprenticeship but then I was accepted by Geisenheim University. Over the next years, I always came back to work at the nursery during the spring and summer breaks at the university and also for a while afterwards.

Since my childhood, I had always been fascinated by plants and horticulture but I cannot say that I had ever been very interested in ivies—until of course I started to work at the monastery. I was utterly fascinated by the many varieties that Br. Ingobert had collected and his enthusiasm for the genus was absolutely contagious. At the time, he had about 150 varieties and his collection grew to over 500 over the course of the next few years. Br. Ingobert had also amassed a formidable reference library on the topic of Hedera, including some really valuable old tomes dating back to medieval times. He kept the library in his own living quarters, scrutinizing for any references he might find in regard to Hedera in general and since Br. Ingobert had never learned English, he was glad to have me on board so that I could assist him with non-German literature. This was, of course, well before the age of personal computers and the Internet, so Br. Ingobert maintained a vastly extensive card catalog of all the literature excerpts he had found. I didn’t have a car at the time, so I chose to live on the premises during weekdays, returning to my parent’s home only over the weekends. Benedictine monks are
known for their hospitality and I was given a small cell in the guest complex. It was a very simple and frugal room but looked out over the nursery and to the forested hills on the other side of the river. The monastery itself was founded in the 12th century and had massive stonewalls surrounding the entire complex; the site is up on a slope overlooking the beautiful Neckar river, less than a mile upstream from the charming city of Heidelberg. Although I am not a Roman Catholic, the monastic community welcomed me into their midst. I got up at 6 AM (the monks at 4 AM), had all meals with the monks in the refractory, during which it was forbidden to speak. The meals themselves were very simple but wholesome, mostly prepared from the products that the monks themselves grew or produced on site. The monastery was conceived as being self-sufficient; the sale of ivy plants from the nursery brought revenue that helped them buy whatever else was needed.

While the monks all attended 7 worship ceremonies (with Gregorianic chants only, no instruments or organ music) per day, guests and workers were not expected to participate. Women were allowed into the church— but the entire grounds of the monastery itself were otherwise strictly off-limits for women. The monks were discouraged from leaving the premises and were forbidden to do so without permission from the abbot. There was also a strict code of silence within the monastery after 8 PM and, with no TV or radio, there was little to do during the evenings. Hence, since Br. Ingobert told me about his project to write a book on the information he had accumulated on Hedera varieties and since I enjoyed drawing, I offered to do the illustrations for the book. Every evening, I would take a leaf of a different variety to my cell and produce botanical illustrations. This was, of course, an excellent exercise to observe the minute differences and distinguishing characteristics between the varieties and honed my eye for further variations and sports in the greenhouses. The illustrations eventually made it into Br. Ingobert’s most important work, Hedera Sorten.

I became very passionate about ivies as well and learned about how ivy varieties are related and how they originate. Br. Ingobert was always on the lookout for a sprig with a different leaf shape or color, for minute specks of variegation—even on the ivies that grew so abundantly around the monastery. I soon started searching for new varieties, in some cases quite successfully so. This passion for Hedera and their interrelationship later prompted me to write my thesis on the topic, which included histological studies of chimera patterns. I also assisted Br. Ingobert in corresponding with members of the American and British Ivy Societies, so I met some of the top experts of the Hedera world at the time: Peter Rose, Henry Schaepman, Stephen Taffler, Sabina Sulgrove, Suzanne Pierot. Br. Ingobert was eventually invited to attend the AIS convention in Florida and I was asked to accompany him as an interpreter and driver. To the best of my knowledge, this was the first and only time that Br. Ingobert travelled outside of Europe and after living behind monastery walls for most of his life, the experience of travelling to the US must have been quite overwhelming.

Br. Ingobert Heieck was an extremely humble and modest man, with a disarming openness and friendliness. He tended to be rather shy and reclusive (as one would expect of a monk) but was a very talented horticulturist whose broad plant
knowledge extended well beyond ivies and one of the best mentors and teachers I have ever met. He had a broad smile and always enjoyed a good laugh but his entire demeanor and behavior was always very monastic, obedient and correct. It was a huge loss to the ivy world—and indeed to the entire industry—when Br. Ingobert contracted bladder cancer over a decade ago and eventually succumbed to the disease, patiently and humbly enduring the debilitating pain and demise that cancer brings.

The solid horticultural foundation that was built during my time at the monastery—and the passion for plants that was instilled into me by Br. Ingobert—were the stones upon which I built my career. After getting my degree in horticulture, I went on to work as a head grower in a Swiss nursery specialized in ferns, afterwards working for three years as an engineer at the research institute for floriculture in Geisenheim, specialized in developing new ornamental species for the floriculture industry. The next twenty years, I worked for the Kientzler group of companies in Germany, responsible for new product development, intellectual property management, international contacts and marketing, eventually entering the management and becoming a part-owner of parts of the company. In this position, I co-founded the Proven Winners network 16 years ago, which has now grown to become one of the most respected plant brands in the international industry. About one and a half years ago, I left the Kientzler group—on good terms, I might add—and founded a company called Cultivaris together with two colleagues and friends—a services company that offers idea and project management in the international green industry (www.cultivaris.com).

Again, I owe much of the success that I have had over the years to the knowledge, enthusiasm and humility that I learned from Br. Ingobert—his legacy and inspiration lives on but he is sorely missed indeed.
Within the genus *Hedera* there are at least 13 species; they include *algeriensis*, *azoric*, *canariensis*, *colchica*, *cypria*, *helix*, *hibernica*, *iberica*, *maderensis*, *maroccano*, *nepalensis*, *pastuchovii* and *rhombea*. These will be discussed in the next issue of the *Ivy Journal*.

All of the following ivies are *Hedera helix*. 
‘Alt Heidelberg’ (M)

This cultivar, which doesn’t look much like an ivy at all, was selected in 1972 by Brother Ingobert. The original proposed name was ‘Heidelberg’ but was amended to ‘Alt Heidelberg’ (Old Heidelberg) to avoid confusion with an already-named ivy.

It has small, asymmetrical, leaves that resemble those of the oak tree. The margins are rolled under with almost non-existent petioles that twist around the stem. This unusual ivy is exceptionally short-jointed, slow growing, compact and self-branching.

‘Atropurpurea’ (I)

One of the so-called “purple ivies”, because its leaves turn a dark purplish-black in winter. The depth of the winter color increases with exposure to cold and in open situations but reverts to a deep dark-green in the summer. Leaves are three-to-five-lobed, to almost triangular, with the terminal lobe elongated. Its vining habit makes it good against a wall. This ivy was known in 1885.

‘Baltica’ (I)

This ivy was found near the Baltic Sea in the early 1900’s by Alfred Rehder, Curator of the Arnold Arboretum Herbarium. It is a typical ivy-ivy in the Pierot Classification System and is particularly useful as a ground cover in areas where the winters are long and cold. The leaves are medium-sized with three-to five lobes and a heart-shaped base.
‘Boskoop’ (C, F)
‘Boskoop’ was named for a small town in the Netherlands which has the world’s biggest joined floriculture area with 774 nurseries divided by narrow canals. This sport of 'Green Ripple' has small, curled, dark-green, shiny leaves that are one-to-three-lobed, diamond-shaped and have a frilled edge. Introduced in 1961. Good houseplant.

‘Bulgaria’ (I)
This ivy was named for the geographical area where it was found, an area known for its cold, dry winters. It looks much like ‘Baltica’ but is broader. The leaves have five rounded lobes, with pale-green veins; color is a deep-green.

‘Big Deal’ (C, O)
This unusual ivy has round, puckered leaves and a stiff, upright growth habit totally unlike other ivies. The leaf margins are curved downward and somewhat fringed. Introduced in the early 1970’s, it was originally called the “Geranium Ivy” on account of the similarity of its leaves to those of the greenhouse geranium. It is essentially a house plant.

‘Brokamp’ (H, BF)
Syn. ‘Imp’
‘Brokamp’ looks so similar to ‘Gavotte’ it is hard to tell the difference, (‘Gavotte’ is slightly wider); but they were selected from different clones by the Brokamp Nursery in Germany. Its willow-like, almost lobe-less leaves are tapered and a medium-to-dark-green color. Self-branching.
‘California’ (C)
This is one of the least curly of the “Curly” ivies in the Pierot Classification System. It is not the outside edge of the leaf that is curly; it is in the sinuses near the base of the leaf where the petiole is attached. It has medium-sized leaves, is strongly self-branching, with five broad lobes and a heart-shaped base. The lobe tips are rounded and veins are slightly raised. Leaf stems and internodes are so short that the vines are closely set with leaves.

‘Carolina Crinkle’ (C)
This curly ivy has five-to-seven lobes with an elongated terminal lobe. All the lobes are deeply cut and slightly wavy with the tip of the lobes turning downward. The width of the leaf is almost as long as wide. The color is a shiny, bright-green.

‘Congesta’ (O)
The way the leaves grow remind you of a ladder: One leaf right on top of another and arranged on opposite sides of short, stiff stems. The leaves are sharply triangular to three-lobed, with a cordate base. It is smaller than its cousin ‘Erecta’ and is a great plant in the rock garden or used as an instant bonsai. It was previously known as ‘Minima’.

‘Cockle Shell’ (F)
The leaves are utterly unlike an ivy: They are almost round, slightly depressed and with margins upturned so that the concavity aptly describes its name. They do have lobes but the tips are so short they are easy to overlook. This medium-green ivy is a sport of ‘California’.

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‘Fan’ (F)
As the name implies, the leaves and even the prominent veins are fan-shaped. All fan-shaped ivies have leaves that are broader than they are long and this is markedly true with ‘Fan’. The five-to-seven short, fat lobed leaves have shallow sinuses that seem to form a pleat or wave. Because it has a cluster of small leaves at virtually every node, it is a particularly good pot plant.

‘Crenata’ (F)
This old English variety (1867) has broad fan-shaped leaves, with five-to-seven palmately, pointed lobes and a truncate base. Color is matt dark-green, with prominent white veins.

‘Christian’ (M, H)
This miniature, heart-shaped ivy has small leaves with not very pronounced, rounded lobes. It is compact, self-branching and resembles ‘Ralf’ and ‘Director Badke’ but ‘Raif’ is much larger.

‘Conglomerata’ (O)
This unusual, upright ivy, like ‘Congesta’, is so different in stature and appearance from most other ivies that it is particularly popular with ivy collectors. The small three-to-five-lobed leaves are crinkly, curled and clustered together so tightly that the look is almost contorted. The stems become curved branches covered with small, dark-green, leathery leaves. The difference between ‘Conglomerata’ and ‘Congesta’ is in the rounded, wavy leaves and the less pronounced upright growth in ‘Conglomerata’.

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‘Dickie Von Stauss’ (O, C)
This ivy has five-lobed broad leaves that are strongly-veined, convoluted at the sinuses and with a deep fold down the center of the leaf. It is a sport of ‘Stuttgart’, very dense, almost upright and this stiff, upright habit makes it quite useful for bonsai work.

‘Emerald Gem’ (I)
This strong, vining ivy has bright, shiny leaves. In general the terminal lobe is shorter than wide, or only as long as wide and their sides are strongly convex.

‘Emerald Globe’ (O)
This ivy is a fasciated sport of ‘Shamrock’ with stout, thickened and flattened stems that are densely clothed in small ‘Shamrock’-like leaves. The strong shoots grow upright and are densely set with leaves. What makes them so interesting is that the three-lobed leaves are nearly divided all the way to the petiole and overlap each other. Good for bonsai work.

‘Erecta’ (O)
This is possibly the most handsome of the upright ivies. It differs from ‘Congesta’ by having stronger upright growth, with larger, brighter green leaves that are not as angular and may be sharply-pointed or barely-rounded. As the stem gets taller, it is pushed to the ground by its own weight and the tips rise again. There is, an adult form of ‘Erecta’ named ‘Humpty Dumpty’.
‘Garland’ (H)
Aptly named because the leaves are positioned closely and overlapping, they give the appearance of a wide garland. The leaves are large and broadly heart-shaped, although there is an occasional ‘notch’ in the leaf. It is a sport of ‘Hahn Self-branching’.

‘Glymii’ (H)
This is one of the darkest-colored ivies with a glossy, purple-red color in the winter. This “gloss” was described in the Gardener’s Chronicle of 1867 as “…looking as if it had been varnished”. It usually has three lobes but occasionally has leaves that are almost unlobed as in this drawing. A vigorous grower and good as a climber for a wall.

‘Green Feather’ (M, BF)
Syn. ‘Meagheri’
The very small leaves have three-to-five long, pointed, narrow lobes that fold upward along the midrib, sometimes almost folding the leaf in half. The terminal lobe is much longer than the others. It is a rich-green color with long wiry vines and is self-branching.

‘Green Finger’ (BF, M)
A small, almost dainty ivy with dark-green leaves that are small, narrow and unlobed, although occasionally having one or two spur-like lobes. The leaves are densely set on self-branching vines. It is a sport of ‘Star’.
‘Gnome’ (M) Syn. ‘Spetchley’
This is one of the smallest ivies with leathery leaves that are as tiny as your fingernail. These half-inch dark-green, shiny leaves have barely three rounded lobes or are even unlobed, elliptical or slightly triangular. Although it is densely self-branching the stems are stiff. Good rock garden plant. Slow growing. The synonym ‘Spetchley’ is now the accepted name.

‘Green Ripple’ (F)
This sport of ‘Maple Queen’ has leaves with three-to-five, long, forward-pointing lobes and prominently raised veins. Bright, deep-green color.

‘Irish Lace’ (BF)
This beautiful Bird’s Foot ivy has dark-green leaves that are flat, small and star-shaped with an elongated terminal lobe and rolled margins. Though its vines grow long, they are generously leafed, sometimes with as many as five leaves growing from a single node.

‘Harrison’ (I)
This small, three-to-five-lobed ivy has dark-green leaves with whitish veins and a prominent, triangular, terminal lobe. Leaves turn dark-purplish-green in winter. Good outdoor ivy.

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‘Ivalace’ (C)
This is an easy ivy to identify with its small, shiny leaves, one of the glossiest of all ivies. The medium sized, bright-green leaves have five lobes and margins that are finely crimped, giving a lacy appearance. Somewhat self-branching, especially when pruned.

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‘Itsy Bitsy’ (M, BF)
The leaves of this tiny ivy are three-lobed to rarely five-lobed. It is a miniature selection from ‘Pin Oak’ and is very self-branching and compact.

‘La Plata’ (M, BF)
The leaves are small and predominantly three-lobed or with insignificant basal protrusions. It resembles ‘Needlepoint’ but with blunt tips. It was named for the first research center of AIS located in La Plata, Maryland. The plant is very self-branching and compact.

‘Kurios’ (O)
It is particularly appropriate that this mutation from ‘Shamrock’ should be here because it was found in 1979 by Br. Ingobert in the Neuburg Monastery garden where Garry Grueber made these drawings. ‘Kurios’ is almost round and similar to ‘Big Deal’ but differs because of its margins which turn both upward and downward. It has thick fasciated petioles.

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'Lucida Aurea' (V, I)
This Victorian ivy has medium-sized, three-lobed leaves with rounded tips and a cordate base. The dull-green color has some yellow mottling in the new growth when grown in a greenhouse in cool temperatures and bright light. Variegation is better when planted outdoors.

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This Victorian ivy has medium-sized, three-lobed leaves with rounded tips and a cordate base. The dull-green color has some yellow mottling in the new growth when grown in a greenhouse in cool temperatures and bright light. Variegation is better when planted outdoors.

‘Little Gem’ (BF)
The leaves are three-lobed with the base pinched so the leaf is folded slightly upward at the base. Center lobe points downwards and the color is a medium-green. A sport of ‘Pittsburgh’.

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‘Maple Queen’ (I)
This ivy, a mutation from ‘Pittsburgh’, is not grown much anymore possibly because of its typical ivy-ivy shape. Gardeners now want leaves that are more interesting. But it is an easy grower and relatively hardy. Unlike most ivies, this one has a U.S. Plant Patent Number (429) that was issued in 1940 to Mr. Sylvan Hahn of Pittsburgh, PA.

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‘Manda Crested’ (C)
One of the first curly ivies and still one of the best. The five lobes of the three inch leaves are strongly pronounced and twisted. The leaf sinuses have an upward curvature while the lobes point downwards giving the curly effect. The jade-green leaves are somewhat shiny but thin. It is a sport of ‘Merion Beauty’.

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‘Merion Beauty’ (M)
The five lobes of this unusual fan shaped ivy are long, tapered, twisted and divided almost to the petiole. The three center lobes may be cut nearly three-quarters of the way to the midrib. The color is dark green and somewhat shiny. It is a great pot plant because it does not climb but branches and sprawls. This sprawling habit makes it untidy as a ground cover.

‘Triton’ (F)
The five lobes of this unusual fan shaped ivy are long, tapered, twisted and divided almost to the petiole. The three center lobes may be cut nearly three-quarters of the way to the midrib. The color is dark green and somewhat shiny. It is a great pot plant because it does not climb but branches and sprawls. This sprawling habit makes it untidy as a ground cover.

‘Midget’ (M, BF)
This is a small version of ‘Needlepoint’ with star-shaped leaves that have three-to-five lobes. It is very compact and self-branching but prone to reversion.

‘Miss Maroc’ (BF)
Reputed to have originated in Morocco, this five-lobed ivy is asymmetrical with a star-like leaf and irregular margins that are both rolled under and crimped. It is similar to ‘Manda Fringette’, ‘Green Ripple’ and ‘Manda Star’.
2001
‘Lady Frances’

2002
‘Teardrop’

2004
‘Duck Foot’

2003
‘Golden Ingot’

2005
‘Misty’

2006
‘Anita’

2007
‘Shamrock’

2008
‘Gold Child’

2009
‘Eva’

2010
‘Ritterkruez’
Ivy of the Year

2001 'Lady Frances'

2002 'Teardrop'

2003 'Golden Ingot'

2004 'Duck Foot'

2005 'Misty'

2006 'Anita'

2007 'Shamrock'

2008 'Gold Child'

2009 'Eva'

2010 'Ritterkruez'
‘Donerailensis’ (I)
This glossy, dark-green ivy with three- to-five lobes, came from Doneraile, County Cork, Ireland, around 1850. The outstanding trait is a strong reddening of the leaves in fall and in winter. In summer, some of the young leaves may have reddish-brown spots between the veins.

‘Needlepoint’ (BF)
The small leaves of this Bird’s Foot Ivy are usually three-lobed but on older stems may have five lobes because of a tiny pair of basal lobes. This cultivar is very similar to ‘Irish Lace’. Compact and self-branching.

‘Nigra’ (I)
This ivy was known and described as early as 1872. The leaves are small, three-lobed with a deep, dark-green color which turns dark-blackish-green in winter. A good climbing ivy.

‘Nigra Aurea’ (V, I)
This ivy is very similar in size to ‘Nigra’. When they are young, the leaves are dark-green but as they age they acquire clear-yellow splotches. For best color, plant outdoors.
‘Palmata’ (F)
This old variety (1846) has dark-green leaves that are broader than long, with mostly three-to-five, forward-pointed, triangular, shallow lobes. It has light-green veins that are prominent on the underside of the leaf. Br. Ingobert notes that it is often mistaken for ‘Crenata’ or ‘Digitata’.

‘Parsley Crested’ (C)
This curly ivy was introduced before 1950. Leaves appear almost round because the lobes are so shallow. The margins are strongly curled and crested. The “cresting” or extra tissue is sometimes also found along the main veins, especially during slow growth.

‘Pedata’ (BF)
This ivy is a perfect example of a Bird’s Foot in the Pierot Classification System with its very long terminal lobe which is one to one-half times as long as the lateral lobes. All of the five lobes are narrow but the lateral lobes are at right angles to the midrib. Lobes become broader in summer. Dark-green with whitish veins.

‘Pittsburgh’ (I)
Most of our modern self-branching ivies can trace their heritage to this ivy. That does not mean that all cultivars came directly from ‘Pittsburgh’. For example ‘Pittsburgh’ gave rise to ‘Maple Queen’, which, in turn gave rise to ‘California’. It is also a good example of an “Ivy-ivy” in the Pierot Classification System. Leaves are three-to-five-lobed, sharply-pointed with a heart-shaped leaf base.
‘Pixie’ (BF)
This small ivy is a soft-green color with leaves of varying size. Some are tiny (one quarter of an inch), while others are one to one-and-one-half inches long with margins that are slightly rolled under. It usually has five lobes but occasionally has seven. Although it is basically self-branching, it is capable of making long vines.

‘Prof. Fredrich Tobler’ (O)
Syn. ‘Tobler’
In the United States this ivy is known only as ‘Tobler’, although it was named for Prof. Fredrich Tobler, Director of the Botanical Gardens of Munster and of Dresden. This sport of ‘Star’ has leaves that are completely split into three-to-five sub-leaves which sit almost directly on the stems. During rapid growth the leaflets may be fused together.

‘Ralf’ (H)
The three lobes are decidedly rounded. Leaf base is deeply cordate. New growth is light-greenish-yellow, maturing to medium-green. Veins are not pronounced. Self-branching.

‘Rusche’ (C)
Leaves are divided into three parts by deep sinuses. Lobes are wedge-shaped, often pointed downward. This fast-growing ivy was selected from a clone of ‘Tobler’ by Br. Ingobert at the Neuburg Monastery ivy garden in 1968. Color is mid-green, veins lighter with a touch of red at the junction of the petiole and the leaf-blade.
‘Shamrock’ (BF)
This ivy is interesting because of the way the lateral lobes overlap the center lobe. It is useful for topiaries because of its dense growth habit. The center lobe is wedge-shaped, with a rounded tip. Sinuses often split to center vein. Dark-green, self-branching.

‘Shannon’ (BF)
This five-lobed ivy has a very long terminal lobe and medium-to-small lateral and basal lobes. The base of the lobes are constricted and slightly pinched. Dark-green.

‘Spear Point’ (BF)
Syn.’Green Spear’
This small, three-lobed ivy has a long terminal lobe and two small forward-pointing lateral lobes. The stems are wiry. It forms dense, dainty plants and is good climber:

‘Star’ (BF)
Syn.’Sagittaefolia’
The very long terminal lobe with lateral lobes at almost a right angle, makes this medium-sized ivy resemble a star. The basal lobes point backward. Self-branching. It is probably a mutation from ‘Pittsburgh’.
‘Stuttgart’ (C)
This is a mutation of ‘Ivalace’ except that the leaves are much larger – almost twice as large. Leaves are five-lobed with the margins rolled downward. It is dark green, very shiny and has a stiff upright habit. Self-branching.

‘Telecurl’ (C)
The medium-green leaves are so deeply curled that some look as though there were three leaves coming out of a single petiole. The three-to-five lobes are twisted downward and the base is heart-shaped.

‘Thorndale’ (I)
The leaf shape is very similar to H. hibernica but shinier. It has large dark-green leaves that are a little wider than long. It has five lobes with a broad terminal lobe and a heart-shaped base. The margin of the leaf has a slight ripple and the veins are whitish. Its hardiness has made it a popular ground cover; reputedly surviving temperatures of -31 degrees F.

‘Tres Coupe’ (BF)
This ivy is a vigorous grower with a terminal lobe almost twice the length of the laterals and wide sinuses. Color is mid-to dark-green, the prominent veins are a lighter color. It is self-branching with a bushy habit of growth.
‘Ulster’ (C)
Leaves have three to five-lobes with rounded tips and are gently curly, slightly asymmetrical and shiny. Leaf base is heart-shaped to nearly straight across. Veins radiate out from the petiole. Moderately self-branching.

‘Woerner’ (I)
Syn. ‘Woerner’
Leaves are large and almost triangular in shape. Dull-dark-green which in winter becomes an outstanding purple color. A good climber.

‘Walthamensis’ (M, I)
This small, very hardy ivy has three-lobed leaves with shallow sinuses. The dark-green leaves become blackish-green with white veins in the winter. Despite small leaves, it gives good ground coverage.

‘Yalta’ (I)
This hardy ivy has three-to-five lobes which are as wide as long. Leaf base cordate and slightly rounded lobes; color dull-dark-green. Originally collected by Dr. John L. Creech on the moist woody hills near Yalta in the Crimea, Russia.
‘Anne Marie’ (V, I)
The outstanding feature of this ivy is the way the margins are variegated white to cream while the center has shades of green and gray. Leaves are medium-sized with five rounded lobes and very shallow sinuses. Color is best in good light.

‘Buttercup’ (V, I)
This five-lobed, yellow-leaved ivy was found in Ireland in 1925. For best color, it must be grown in full sun. In shadier areas, color is not yellow but chartreuse to pale green with the oldest leaves becoming all-green.

‘Aureo-variegata’ (V, I)
This ancient variety, first described as early as 1771, has small, broadly triangular, three-lobed leaves with a chartreuse margin. Leaves become all green as they mature.

‘California Gold’ (V, C)
This gently curly ivy has the shape and compact growth habit of ‘California’ but is variegated with yellow-to-gold blotches on a green background. The branches are somewhat stiff but it becomes a bushy plant. Slow grower.
‘Caecilia’ (V, C)  
The five-lobed leaves have fluted and crimped or wavy margins. Variegation is a mottled gray-green or green–on-cream in the center with a white margin. Best color in good light.

‘Chester’ (V, H)  
This ivy is broadly triangular, three-lobed, flat and with a heart-shaped base. The basic color is a creamy-yellow with a gray-green variegation in the center and a wide, creamy-white margin. Best color in good light.

‘Chrysanna’ (V)  
Br. Ingobert described this as "a strange ivy" because of the variety of leaf shapes, from unlobed to some with three or five lobes. The variegation, too, is strange. Sometimes it has spots of yellow, gray and occasionally white, while at other times it is non-existent. The variegation seems to be seasonal. Best variegation in cool weather.

‘Elegantissima’ (V)  
Leaves are sharply three-lobed, with a wide, white margin and a green-gray center. These margins have a pink tint which becomes more intense during cold temperatures. Plants are inclined to be "leggy", only branching below a cut. Very slow grower.
'Eugen Hahn' (V, H)
The leaves of this ivy are dappled and speckled with light-green, dark-green, grey-green, white-to-yellowish-white and are distributed in large or small patches over the whole leaf. A variegated sport of 'Sylvanian', it is remotely three-lobed, more often unlobed and frequently has a lobe-like protrusion on one side of the leaf base. It becomes all-green with age.

'Fantasia' (V, I)
It is the lack of chlorophyll that gives this plant its beauty. The leaves are white-to-creamy-white with evenly scattered green speckles and blotches—but the overall effect is white. Even the main veins are white. It is a presumed sport of 'Pittsburgh Variegated' with typical ivy-shaped leaves that become green with age.

'Flavescens' (V, I)
The outstanding feature of this slow-growing ivy is its pale-yellow leaves which remain yellow even when not grown in full sun. When they are fully exposed to the light, they take on a deeper yellow color. It looks great in an all-yellow garden. The leaves are three-lobed but the lobes are not prominent.

'Eva' (V, BF)
This variegated Bird's Foot ivy has three forward-pointing lobes, with the terminal lobe twice the length of the laterals. The margins are creamy-white with an irregular gray-green center. The leaves are arranged close to the stem. It is self-branching but light pruning produces more branching.
'Gertrud Stauss’ (V)  
This ivy is gray and gray-green in the center with a narrow, cream-to-white margin which is slightly wavy. It has three-to-five forward-pointing lobes and a heart-shaped base. Br. Ingobert described this self-branching ivy as “handsome”.

‘Discolor’ (V, I)  
Syn. ‘Minor Marmorata’  
This old English variety (1860) has three-to-five, broad lobes with a heart-shaped base. The new growth is white with green and gray-green speckles. With age the leaves become mottled-green and eventually a dark-dull-green. A good outdoor ivy.

‘Glacier’ (V, I)  
This is an old ivy and one of the first colored ivy cultivars to become popular as a pot plant. It has leaves that are gray-green with silver-gray blotches and cream edges. The medium-sized leaves have three-to-five lobes, with the basal lobes mere projections. Shallow sinuses make the leaf look triangular.

‘Goldcraft’ (V, I)  
This is a yellow-gold ivy with a green center. The young leaves are especially yellow, becoming all green with age. Leaves are five-lobed, with the center lobe broadly wedge-shaped.
‘Gold Dust’ (V, I)
It is the green specks and splashes over the entire leaf that identifies this gold ivy. There is no white or cream in the variegation. The leaves are five-lobed and the terminal lobe is longer than wide. Self-branching.

‘Goldnerz’ (V, I) ‘Goldheart’
This ivy is known today as ‘Gold Heart’. It is one of the most dramatically variegated ivies with its strong splash of bright yellow in the center of the dark green leaf. The color holds all year but is best in good light. Occasionally a leaf reverts to all-green, particularly when grown as a ground cover. These green leaves should be removed. It is a particularly beautiful ivy when it climbs a wall or hangs down freely.

‘Golden Pittsburgh’ (V, I)
Very similar to ‘Pittsburgh Variegated’ but the coloration is more yellow-to-gold, especially in cool temperatures. The variegation is streaky with blotches of cream, yellow and gold on a medium-green leaf. Leaves have three-to five-lobes. Self-branching.

‘Goldstern 1’ (V, BF)
This variegated sport from ‘Star’ was selected by Br. Ingobert at the Neuburg Monastery, Germany in 1979. Leaves are five-lobed with the terminal lobe often twice as long as the laterals and the basal lobes point backwards. Self-branching. Color is yellow to chartreuse, with an irregular darker-green center, becoming all medium-green with age.
‘Harald’ (V, I)
This is an old variety (Denmark 1958) that is a presumed sport from ‘Pittsburgh’. The leaves are wedge-shaped, medium-sized and mostly three-lobed. The middle of the leaf has shades of gray on green with an irregular creamy-white margin. It is similar to ‘Anne Marie’ but smaller and with less white/cream color.

‘Howardii’ (V, I)
Syn. ‘Dealbata’
Known today as ‘Dealbata’, this ivy has leaves that are three-lobed and triangular shaped. Their dark-green color is splashed with cream-to-white on the new growth, turning all-green with age.

‘Jubilee’ (V, M)
This miniature ivy has a profusion of leaves—some are a half-inch long and wide but even the large leaves are only about three-quarters of an inch. No two leaves are colored the same but generally they are a light-silvery-green with dollops of dark-green splashed on them and edged a creamy-white. They are irregularly-shaped and densely arranged on the vine.

‘Kolibri’ (V)
This sport of ‘Ingrid’ has five lobes but the two basal lobes are very small. The basic color of the leaves is white-to-ivory, strewn with sprinkles and splashes of green and occasionally gray-green flecks of varying size. It is sometimes confused with H.h. ‘Schafer Three’. “Kolibri” is the German word for “Hummingbird”.

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‘Lee’s Silver’ (V)
This medium-green ivy has an irregular silver-gray center and a wide creamy-white margin. Leaves are three to five-lobed. Slow growing.

‘Kleiner Diamant’ (V, M)
syn. ‘Little Diamond’
This ivy is known today as ‘Little Diamond’ but not much is known about the background of this ivy with small diamond-shaped leaves that are closely set on the stem. It has a gray-green center and a creamy-white border. It is a presumed sport of ‘Glacier’.

‘Maculata’ (V, I)
The ‘Maculata’ drawn here was described by Br. Ingobert as having a relatively large leaf—about 2 ½ by 2 ½ inches with five lobes. The variegation is greenish-gray with some light-gray. The margin is narrow and irregularly seamed with white.

‘Marginata’ (V)
syn. ‘Cavendishii’
This ivy was described by Hibberd in 1871. The medium-to-large leaves are triangular with three, acutely pointed lobes, shallow sinuses and a truncate base. The center is green-to-gray-green with an irregular white-to-cream margin.
‘Masquerade’ (V, I)
This ivy is similar, if not identical, to ‘Gold Dust’. The leaves, with five lobes and shallow sinuses, are a gold color with specks and blotches of green and gray-green.

‘Paper Doll’ (V)
This sport of ‘Glacier’ has an irregular margin and is usually unlobed to barely three-lobed. It has the gray-splashed coloring of ‘Glacier’ and a narrow white margin.

‘Minor Marmorata’ (V, I)
First described in a German catalog in 1862, this ivy has been called by many names. The small leaves have a neat, tidy look to them. They are a clean, bright, cream-color splashed with green which is distinct, not the least mottled. It has three-to-five lobes but appears to be almost triangular.

‘Peter’ (V, I)
This sport of ‘Pittsburgh’ was personally selected by Br. Ingobert and has an irregular splash of chartreuse-to-yellow in the center on a light-green leaf. The coloring is reminiscent of ‘Gold Heart’ but not as bright. As the leaves mature they become all-green. The terminal lobe is slightly elongated.
‘Pittsburgh Variegated’ (V, I)
For many years there was no variegated cultivar of ‘Pittsburgh’. Then, in 1938, Robert Manda (Manda Crested) found a sport from ‘Pittsburgh’ that was colored and from this we get ‘Pittsburgh Variegated’. The leaves are small and typically ivy-shaped with a somewhat wavy margin. On new growth, leaves can be speckled cream-to-white or white with green specks all over.

‘Sagittaefolia variegata 1’ (V, BF)
‘Sagittaefolia variegata 1’ is not a variegated form of ‘Sagittaefolia’ (one of the quirks of ivy nomenclature). It has three-to-five slender lobes with a terminal lobe almost twice the length of the laterals. The leaves have a gray-green center bordered with creamy-white that becomes all-green with age. Variegation is most prominent on new growth. The leaves grow close together on the stem.

‘Romanze’ (C, V)
Syn. ‘Romance’
This variegated ivy was discovered and named in 1979 by Br. Ingober. It is a selection from ‘Luzii’. The curly leaves are five-lobed and resemble the shape of ‘Manda Crested’. Even the lobes are deeply fluted, heightening the overall curly effect. Color is a light-green with a slightly darker-green mottle.

‘Sinclair Silverleaf’ (V, I)
This ivy with small leaves and three to five-lobes is similar in shape to ‘Merion Beauty’. The variegation changes as the leaves get older. New growth may be creamy-yellow-to-white but, as the leaves mature they first become mottled-green and then entirely green. Densely self-branching. Color is most intense in cool temperatures.
‘Spectre’ (V, BF)
All the lobes of ‘Spectre’ are narrow, twisted and curly, almost claw-like but the terminal lobe is nearly twice the length and the sinuses are deep. This colored form of ‘Triton’ is mid-green splashed with yellow. This variegation is most prominent in new growth under cool temperatures.

‘Pin Oak’ (M, BF)
Opinions differ on whether this ivy is a presumed sport of ‘Merion Beauty’ or ‘Konigers Auslese’. This three-lobed, light-green ivy has a long center lobe twice the length of the laterals and deep sinuses. Self-branching.

‘Stuttgart’ Mut. (C)
This unnamed mutation of ‘Stuttgart’ has the same dark-green shiny leaves as ‘Ivalace’ but has only three lobes and appears less curly. It is a vigorous grower.

‘Sylvatica’ (H)
The leaves of this three-lobed ivy are shaped like an arrowhead with a cordate base. The new growth is medium-green, maturing to a dark shiny-green with good winter hardiness. It was found growing in a park in Germany in 1977. Like ‘Williamsiana’, the name ‘Sylvatica’ has been accepted because the ivy was described before Latinized names were not permitted.
‘Williamsiana’  
(V, C)  
This interesting ivy has shallow sinuses and three to-five lobes that curl downward, while the edges of leaves are wavy. The margins are a clear ivory-white; the center is green-to-gray-green. The name was accepted because it was described in 1955, 4 years before Latinized names were no longer accepted.

‘Zebra’  
(V, F)  
The leaves of this ivy are more or less striped (hence its name) with bands of cream-to-white on a green-gray background. It is a fasciated leaf-sport of ‘Harald’ but less lobed. The leaves are barely fan-shaped, with three to five forward-pointing lobes.

‘Shamrock’  
Mut. 2 (M, BF)  
Syn. ‘Wichtel’  
This mutation of ‘Shamrock’ is now known as ‘Wichtel’. The leaves are small and dark-green with a long terminal lobe and a small, rounded, irregular lateral lobe that sometimes appears only as a protrusion. Self-branching.

‘Shamrock’ Mut. 3 (O, F)  
Syn. ‘Knulch’  
It is interesting that this mutation from ‘Shamrock’ looks more like ‘Big Deal’. It is now known as ‘Knulch’, a German name for a scallywag. Its nearly round leaves are a dull-green with an irregular margin which is distorted and gnarled. The margin is rolled downward giving a cupped appearance.
‘Glacier’ Mut. 3 (I)
Syn. ‘Laubfrosch’
This mutation of ‘Glacier’ was found in Br. Ingobert’s ivy nursery and subsequently registered as ‘Laubfrosch’ (the German word for ‘tree frog’). It is a vigorous, three-lobed, dark-green ivy with broadly heart-shaped asymmetrical leaves that are slightly puckered and become a blushed wine-red color in winter.

‘Typ Schaefer I’ Mut. 1 (I)
Syn. ‘Schimmer’
The instability of all the Schaefer-type ivies (I, II, III and IV) has led to much confusion. The ivy shown here is now known as ‘Schimmer’. It has bluish, dark-green leaves with five lobes and a slight curl in the sinuses. Self-branching.

‘Spear Point’ Mut. 1 (BF)
Syn. ‘Leo Swicegood’
The mutation of ‘Spear Point’ drawn here was later named ‘Leo Swicegood’. The long-pointed linear leaves are unlobed with a wedge-shaped base and a rolled margin. They are densely and spirally arranged on a compact plant.

‘Ralf’ Mut. 1 (H)
Syn. ‘Perkeo’
This mutation of ‘Ralf’, now known as ‘Perkeo’, has small, round, puckered, heart-shaped leaves. New growth is a light-greenish-yellow, maturing to medium-green. Perkeo was the name of the Court Jester in Heidelberg and the caretaker of the famous Heidelberg wine cask.

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‘Klon-Wingerhberg’ (I) Syn. ‘Wingertsberg’
This ivy was found growing wild near the Neuberg Monastery in Germany. Leaves have three-to-five lobes and are a glossy-dark-green, that turns purple in winter. Leaf base is cordate; center lobe is rounded, wedge-shaped and 2 1/2 times as long as the lateral lobes. It is a great, hardy ground cover with outstanding winter color.

‘Star’ Mut. (BF) Syn. ‘Marie-Luise’
This mutation of ‘Star’ has leaves which are deeply divided into five linear lobes that are constricted at the base and barely fused to each other. Color is a medium-green with light-green veins. Lobes become broader and less divided during rapid growth.

‘Sylvanian’ Mut. I (H) Syn. ‘Diana’
This ivy is unusual because of the widely-spaced teeth along the margins that look like tiny tendrils. In 1979 Br. Ingobert said the plant should have its own name rather than just be called a mutation of ‘Sylvanian’. It eventually became ‘Diana’, named for the daughter of the grower. It has dark-green leaves that are barely three-lobed.

‘Crispa-Form’ (V, C) Syn. ‘Elfenbein’
Although this unusual ivy has three-to-five lobes, the sinuses are so shallow the leaves appear to be almost round. The edge of the leaf is crested with yellow-to-cream variegation, while the centers have shades of gray on a green background. The name means “ivory” in German.
‘Harold’ Mut 3 (V)
Syn., ‘Goldwolke’
When Grueber drew this ivy it was known as merely a mutation of ‘Harold’. Later it was named by Br. Ingobert as ‘Goldwolke’, a German word meaning “gold cloud”. The irregular variegation is a chartreuse color on a mid-green leaf. This ivy easily reverts to all-green, so care should be taken to propagate only variegated stems. It is three-lobed, with shallow sinuses and a cordate base.

‘Harald’ Mut. 7 (V, C)
Syn., ‘Perle’
‘Harold’ has had many mutations and this one, number 7, is now called ‘Perle’. It has an upright growth habit and leaves that are three-lobed or sometimes unlobed. The variegation is gray-green in the center, with an irregular, white, rolled-under margin. May have flattened stems and distorted leaves.

‘Gertrud Stauss’ Mut 2 (V, C)
‘Syn., ‘Ambrosia’
This unusual ivy has small, closely-set, slightly curled and twisted leaves that fold over on themselves. The white-to-cream variegation on the margins of the medium-green leaf is particularly interesting because of its “clean” color. It was found by Br. Ingobert as a mutation of ‘Gertrud Stauss’ but is now called ‘Ambrosia’.

‘Goldstern’ Mut 2 (V, l)
Syn., ‘Sterntaler’
This mutation, now known as ‘Sterntaler’, is a beautiful gold-yellow when young but fades to a medium-green with age. Its color is best when grown in good light and cool temperatures. Five-lobed, It has typical ivy-shaped leaves with five lobes and a slight curl in the sinuses.
‘Mini-Ester’ (V, M, BF)
The tiny leaves of this unusually compact, self-branching ivy makes it a stand-out favorite as a houseplant or in the rock garden. It has three-lobes with the terminal lobe twice as long as broad. Margins are white-to-cream with a green-to-gray-green center.

‘Pittsburgh’ Mut. (V, I)
Syn. ‘Serenade’
‘Pittsburgh’ deserves its place in history because it is the first of the self-branching ivies. This mutation, called ‘Serenade’, has small leaves, five lobes and a central splash of chartreuse to pale-yellow-green. The older leaves become all-green. It is similar to ‘Peter’ but smaller and more self-branching.

GLOSSARY

Basal lobes
The two lower leaf lobes. Sometimes so small they may go almost unnoticed.

Cordate
Heart-shaped

Fasciation
Forms a bunch

Lateral Lobe
The lobes immediately below the center or terminal lobe

Lobe
A projection of a leaf regardless of shape

Midrib
The central vein that runs vertically from petiole to the top of the terminal lobe

Node
The place where the petiole joins the stem

Petiole
The leaf stalk or stem of a leaf

Self-branching
Shoots rising from every node

Sinus
The gap, division, or curve between two lobes

Terminal Lobe
The projection at the top of leaf.
Also called Center lobe

Truncate
Cut across the bottom of leaf. Almost straight

Vining
An ivy whose shoots elongate to form long “vines”
IVY OF THE YEAR 2010

*Hedera helix* ‘Ritterkreuz’

The American Ivy Society has selected *Hedera helix* ‘Ritterkreuz’ as its 2010 Ivy of the Year. ‘Ritterkreuz’ is one of those ivies that you may overlook at first glance but when you take the second look, you will be won over. Ritterkreuz is German for Knights Cross and the leaf shape is reminiscent of a Maltese Cross. This ivy sported from *Hedera helix* ‘Perfection’, a large ‘Needlepoint’ ivy at the Neuburg Monastery Nursery, Heidelberg, West Germany and was registered by Brother Ingobert Heieck in 1981.

This Bird’s Foot ivy in the Pierot Classification system has obscurely five lobes, with two small basal lobes, sometimes appearing as teeth on the lateral lobes. The terminal and lateral lobes are angular, sometimes toothed and are broadest near the middle, giving an almost diamond shape to the lobes. Color is mid green with lighter veins. When planted outside, the color will become dark green with a reddish cast in winter.

This versatile ivy does well as a houseplant, can be used in all types of topiary and has been shown to be winter hardy up to at least zone 6 or -10 degrees (F). It will climb low walls but is not particularly fast growing either on a wall or in the ground.

There is commercially available an ivy under the name *Hedera helix* ‘Florida’, which was sent to the American Ivy Society Research Center for identification. This ivy is *Hedera helix* ‘Ritterkreuz’. Since ‘Florida’ is a newer name and has not been registered, ‘Ritterkreuz’ is its correct name.


For successful outdoor planting, remember to plant deep, removing several of the lower leaves and planting to the new lowest leaves. Ivy will root along the new stem, helping it to become established. When possible, plant variegated ivies where they will get some protection from the winter sun and wind which causes most seasonal damage.

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