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Connie Meck
512 Waterford Rd
Silver Spring MD 20901

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Cover: Hedera helix ‘Midas Touch’, Ivy of the Year 2016
Photo by Rachel Cobb

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THE PIEROT CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM OF IVIES (HEDERA)

By Dr. Sabina Mueller Sulgrove, Taxonomist, American Ivy Society (AIS)

For convenience and as an aid in identification, ivies can be roughly divided into categories based on leaf shape, size, or color. Such classification system was first developed by Suzanne Warner Pierot in her 1974 publication, The Ivy Book, amplified in the second edition, 1995, and by the American Ivy Society in 1977. The system is called the Pierot Classification System.

This classification system is one of convenience, not exactness. This means that a certain amount of latitude is necessary in envisioning a “Heart-Shaped Ivy”, because not all ivies that are assigned to this category will have a “heart shaped” leaf, that is, a broadly ovate outline, a pointed tip, and a heart-shaped base. Nor do all Bird’s Foot ivies have three or five narrow lobes; some have only a single, narrow, unlobed leaf, as in H.h. ‘Leo Swicegood’. But with a little bit of experience in dealing with the different ivies, it is possible to place each ivy cultivar into the correct Pierot classification.

A particular ivy may belong to more than one category, such as Hedera helix ‘Lady Frances’ which is a Miniature Ivy (M) as well as a Variegated Ivy (V) and a Bird's Foot Ivy (BF), the classification for ‘Lady Frances therefore is (M, V, BF).

THE VARIEGATED IVIES

By Suzanne Warner Pierot, President Emeritus

There are variegated ivies in each of the Pierot Ivy Classifications and their colors run from white to yellow splashed on the ivy green. They certainly add a bright note as potted plants and in arrangements as well as in the garden.

Ivies can be variegated in many different ways, and unless you study them carefully one variegated ivy may seem like another. But as you study them, you’ll find that some leaves are more variegated along the edges, while others will be variegated over most of the leaf. Still others will have not only lovely white and yellow patches in distinct areas, but also patches of two or more shades of green.

When variegation occurs it is due to the lack of chlorophyll. The weaker growth is rapidly overtaken by the more robust green. This is why it is important to cut out green growth that appears on ivy leaves. Color can also be influenced by soil, situation, season or cultivation. Some “Variegateds” if grown outdoors will change color during the autumn and...
winter. Because the light-colored sections produce little or no chlorophyll, those ivies with more green in them than variegation will root more easily than those with a larger amount of white or yellow.

My favorite variegated ivy is H.h. 'Goldheart'. The margin is a dark green and in the center there is a dollop of a rich gold-yellow. The yellow in ‘Goldheart’ is among the strongest yellow found in any of the “Variegateds”.

AIS in 2010 began publishing this photographic reference collection of Ivy (Hedera).


In 2011 the Journal featured individual photographs and descriptions of 78 ivies in the Bird’s Foot (BF) category.

The 2012 Journal had individual photographs and descriptions of 87 ivies in the Fans (F) and the Curlies (C) categories.

The big 40th Anniversary 2013 Journal had individual photographs and descriptions of 24 ivies in the Heart-shape (H) category.

2014 featured the Minatures (M), 44 ivies individual photographed with descriptions in that category.

Future issues will describe with individual photographs of the Oddities (O), and the Ivy-Ivies (I).

If you don’t have the back issues of the Journals with these photos, they can be ordered from the AIS web site www.ivy.org.
**H.h. ‘Ambrosia’**
88-015 (C,V)

The crimped and curled leaves of this ivy are fascinated which make some of them fold over on themselves. It was found by Brother Ingobert Heieck in 1980 at the Neuberg Monastery Nursery in Heidelberg, Germany as a mutation of ‘Gertrud Stauss’. It has white to cream variegation on the margins, with shades of green and gray in the center.

**H.h. ‘Appaloosa’**
88-193 (C,V)

This is a variegated form of ‘Manda Crested' found in 1984 by Joyce Descloux of Dover, New Jersey. It was named because “like the Indian pony, it is spotted with dark spots on a white background”. While interesting, that is not accurate – rather, the background is green and the spots are gray and white.

**H.h. ‘Bettina’**
91-086 (C,V)

Notice how the lobes curl downwards in this three to five lobed leaf. The white or cream variegation is seen mainly on the margins. The center is a dusty green-gray color.
**H.h. ‘Brimstone’**  
95-074 (C,V)  

This is a curly sport of H.h. ‘Gold Dust’ introduced by grower Hedera etc. The leaves are three to barely-five-lobed, with an overlapping cordate base. The terminal lobe is twice as long as the lateral. The lobes are fluted and curled under. Variegation is gold with green and gray specks throughout.

![Image of H.h. ‘Brimstone’](image1)

**H.h. ‘Caecilia’**  
88-022 (C,V)  

This ivy looks like a variegated version of H.h. ‘Parsley Crested’, but this sport came from H.h. ‘Harald’ and was found by a nursery in Germany. ‘Harald’ is not seen so often in the U.S. but it is one of the most popular pot plants in Europe. ‘Caecilia’s’ five-lobed leaves are nearly rounded with fluted or crimped margins. Variegation is gray-green in the center with a margin that is white to mottled green on cream.

![Image of H.h. ‘Caecilia’](image2)

**H.h. ‘Calico’**  
88-263 (C,V)  

This is a striking green and white variegated ivy. The five-lobed leaves are a clean-white with bright green splotches scattered throughout, and an irregular green border. Synonyms are ‘Vick’s Hybrid’ or ‘Vick’s variegated’. It was formally registered by Pat Hammer in 1984.

![Image of H.h. ‘Calico’](image3)
**H.h. ‘California Gold’**
92-037 (C,V)

‘California Gold’ is much like ‘California’ except that it is a little curlier and has yellow-to-gold blotches on a green background. It is a slow grower.

---

**H.h. ‘Curvaceous’**
91-095 (C,V)

This variegated sport of ‘Manda Crested’ was found in 1980 by Elise Everhardt of Baltimore, Maryland. The curly, broadly three-lobed leaves with a cordate base, have a variegation that is wide creamy-white on the margin, and a gray and gray-green center. It develops a reddish tinge in cool weather.

---

**H.h. ‘Eclipse’**
88-152 (C,V)

Introduced by the American Ivy Society in 1994, this small-leaved ivy has gray-green variegation with gray veins and a narrow, irregular, white margin. The leaves are five-lobed with the lobes curled down and a very irregular crimped margin. The curliness and variegation is most intense during cool weather.
**H.h. ‘Elfenbein’**
88-026 (C,V)

This ivy was found by Stauss Bros., the German nursery. Although the word “elfenbein” translates as “ivory”, the context in which it is used has a connection with elves and refers to the plant’s spindly habit of growth. The round leaves have three to five lobes but the sinuses are so shallow that sometimes it produces an unlobed leaf. The edge of the leaf is crested with yellow to cream variegation while the center has shades of gray on a green background.

**H.h. ‘Ellen’**
04-049 (C,V)

This ivy came from Fibrex Nursery, England in 1999. It is a presumed sport of ‘Minty’ and looks a lot like a mint-colored ‘Calico’ with its minty-green leaves and a cream center. It has a wavy leaf and an irregular margin.

**H.h. ‘Fool’s Gold’**
94-026 (C,V)

This ivy looks like a curly ‘Golden Ingot’ with five-lobed leaves that are about as wide as long with the lobe tips curling downward and the sinuses upward. The leaf base is cordate.

Its variegation is green and gray with central markings surrounded by an irregular band of bright-gold to cream and an irregular outer margin of dark-green.
**H.h. ‘Frederick’**
09-010 (C,V)

This ivy from Fibrex Nursery in England is a sport of ‘Gilded Hawke’. ‘Frederick’ has almost round leaves with a green-gray center followed by a band of white and an outside edge of lime-green. The margin of the leaf is crested with a burgundy color. Very unusual.

**H.h. ‘Gilded Hawke’**
95-361 (C,V)

This beautiful ivy was found by the late Gillia Hawke and named in her honor. Its leaves are large with three-to-five lobes that curl downward. The veins are raised with some puckering of the leaf surface. The color on the margins is a gold-to-yellow, which can fade to cream in hot temperatures with a center that is green and gray.

**H.h. ‘Golden Gate’**
94-026 (C,V)

This ivy, a new introduction from Denmark, was selected from ‘Golden Inge’. It has three-to-five undulating rounded lobes with large splashes of gold in the center and a dark green margin. It has pink petioles and stems.
**H.h. ‘Golden Girl’**
95-053 (C.V.)

This ivy was named by Fibrex, the British Nursery. It is interesting that it was an unnamed ivy that the nursery owners purchased in the United States. The leaves have the same coloration as ‘Gold Child’ but with five rounded lobes, a wavy margin and a cordate base.

---

**H.h. ‘Halebob’**
03-020 (C.V.)

This ivy was found as a sport of ‘Golden Esther’ (also called ‘Cendwin’). It was named by Eef van der Heyden for the comet “Hale-Bob” that was seen in the northern skyline of the Netherlands in 1997. The small to medium-sized green leaves have bright yellow margins which are fluted and curled upward. The leaves are mostly five-lobed with a cordate to truncate base and prominently raised veins. The petioles are almost twice as long as the leaves which are shiny, thick and leathery.

---

**H.h. ‘Kaleidoscope’**
95-004 (F,C,V)

We believe this ivy is a variegated sport of ‘Boskoop’, (which in turn is a sport of ‘Green Ripple’). The leaves have three-to-five forward-pointing lobes with the terminal lobe longer than the laterals. It is a dark, shiny-green with streaks and splashes of cream and gray that follow the veins. The petioles are white with a pink tinge. The margins are wavy with deeper curls at the sinuses. The leaves are arranged tightly around the stem. A slow grower.
H.h. ‘Lemon Swirl’
90-089 (C,V)

This sport of ‘Ustler’ has an interesting over-all variegation that is lemony-yellow to creamy-white. It has three to five rounded lobes. The sides of the lateral lobes lie parallel to the mid-rib and the leaf base is heart-shaped. Variegation fades to green on older leaves.

H.h. ‘Patent Leather’
97-073 (C,V)

This sport of ‘Ivalace’ has maintained all of the great characteristics of its parent plant but has added a new spin. The new growth is shiny and creamy-white with pale-green speckles and light-green veins which become medium-green with age. The mostly five-lobed leaves are small to medium sized with a cordate to truncate base and prominently raised veins. The leaf margins are fluted and curled upward.

H.h. ‘Perle’
82-043 (V)

Brother Ingobert Heieck of the Heidelberg Monastery in Germany selected this fasciated sport from H.h. ‘Harald’ in 1980. The leaves are unlobed to three-lobed and have a gray-green center with an irregular, white, rolled-under margin. May have flatten stems and distorted leaves. It is an excellent ivy for hanging baskets.
**H.h. ‘Pinwheel’**  
06-069 (C,V)

This ivy was found by American Ivy Society Registrar, Russell Windle in 2004 as a sport of ‘Kleidoscope’. The leaves are predominately five-lobed with a cordate base, but what makes this ivy unique is the way the leaf is pinched in the center causing the lobes of the leaf to curl much like the vanes of a pinwheel. On some of the leaves the lobes are split to the petiole, dividing the leaf into three leaflets. The variegation is variable with some leaves appearing white with green splashes and specks, to leaves that are green with white splashes and specks.

**H.h. ‘Romanze’**  
88-135 (C,V)

This ivy, a sport of ‘Luzii’, was found and named by Brother Ingobert Heieck (see *Ivy Journal*, Summer 2009). The curly leaves resemble ‘Manda’s Crested’ but are mottled a subtle gold and green throughout. The leaves have five lobes but are so waved and curled that the lobing is indistinct.

**H.h. ‘Williamsiana’**  
88-252 (C,V)

This sport of ‘Glacier’ has almost pure white variegation on the margins. The three-to-five lobes are long and curled downward while the edges of the green to gray-green leaves with patches of silver-gray, are wavy. You can tell this is an old variety because it is one of the few ivies with a Latinized cultivar name, something not permitted under the rules of the International Commission for Nomenclature since 1959. It was found by Keith E. Williams who named it after himself.
VARIGATED FANS

**H.h. ‘Beryl’s Honor’**
05-002 (F,V)

This ivy was named for Beryl Ivey, a Canadian philanthropist. It sported from a series of mutations of ‘Kaleidoscope’. The leaves have three-to-five forward-pointing lobes, with the terminal lobe about one-half as long as the lateral lobes, and a cuneate base. The variegation is stable and does not fade in low light or with age. The variegation is variable with some leaves appearing almost all-white with green and gray streaks, to an all-green leaf with streaks of white and gray following the major veins.

**H.h. ‘Mrs. Pollock’**
88-048 (F,V)

This ivy has five-to-seven, broad forward-pointing lobes and a cuneate leaf base. It is a medium-green with yellow blotches and green veins. The variegation is only seen when grown outside and even then it is only on the older growth.

**H.h. ‘Sub-Marginata’**
95-163 (F,V)

This is another one of the ivies described by Hibberd in 1872. It has unlobed, spoon-shaped leaves with the occasional odd lobe. The center variegation is gray-green, while the margin is creamy-white. Occasionally the leaves are entirely cream. The leaves fade to a pale gray-green with age.
**H. h. ‘Yellow Ripple’**
96-029 (F,V)

This Danish import, also called ‘Golden Starlight’, is absolutely gorgeous with leaves that are a bright yellow and bright green. Really intense clean colors.

The leaves have three-to-five forward-pointing narrow lobes with a truncate to cuneate base.

---

**H. h. ‘Zebra’**
88-255 (F,V)

This ivy, which comes from Germany, was named because of the way some, but not all, of the green-gray leaves are almost striped with broken bands of cream- to-white that radiate outward from the petiole. It is slightly cupped, with three-to-five insignificant lobes. ‘Zebra’ is a sport of ‘Harold’.

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**H.h. ’Caenwoodiana Aurea’**
88-022 (BF,V)

This is a yellow form of H.h. ‘Pedata’. Our photo does not show the yellow coloring. The suffusion of light-yellow is seen on new growth of ‘Caenwoodiana Aurea’ in the spring and is rapidly replaced by the usual green color. In older plants, and particularly those grown in an open sunny position, the color is retained in some leaves. Leaves are five lobed with the terminal lobe twice as long as the laterals. Must be planted outside to see variegation. This is an old ivy, and was first listed in a British catalog in 1863.

**H.h. ’Eva’**
82-185 (BF,V)

H.h. ’Eva’ was discovered in Denmark in the early 1960’s and the name was published by two German magazines in 1966. Since that time, this ivy has traveled the world becoming a very popular houseplant. ’Eva’ has very distinctive variegation: the margins are a cream to white while the center is a green-gray. The leaves are arranged close on the stem. It is self-branching, but light pruning produces more branching. If left to its own accord, ’Eva’ will make long runners. For the best color ’Eva’ must be grown in good sunlight. In the cool temperatures of winter, ’Eva’ will also take on a pinkish hue. ’Eva’ was the ”Ivy of the Year” in 2009.

**H.h. ’Fleur de lis’**
88-313 (BF,V)

Sometimes this ivy is easy to identify because its terminal and two lateral lobes make it look like the *fleur de lis* of France. However it is highly variable and sometimes looks like an enlarged ’Green Feather’. Without rigorous selection in propagation it can easily deteriorate to ’Green Feather’ or ’Shamrock’. It is self-branching with variously-shaped leaves from five-lobed to deeply divided with three large and two small ovate lobes. During cool weather may become mottled with light gray specks. The variegation in our photo is only very slightly mottled.
**H.h. 'Frosty'
79-255 (BF, V, M)**

This variegated sport from H.h. 'Mini-Green' is a compact plant with small star-shaped leaves that have blunt tips. As the leaves mature they are mottled with green and eventually become all green with age.

---

**H.h. 'Golden Carpet'
94-024 (BF, V)**

When this plant is young, it is an all-gold form of 'Shamrock'. As the leaves age they become green as shown in this photo. The leaf shape is like 'Shamrock' with three-to-five lobed leaves. The terminal lobe is twice as long as the laterals. The lateral lobes fold over the terminal lobe.

---

**H.h. 'Golden Fleece'
88-033 (BF, V)**

Some have claimed that 'Golden Fleece' is hardly distinguishable from 'Goldstern'. We don't agree. They are two entirely different ivies. 'Golden Fleece' is a green ivy with streaks of gold and 'Goldstern' is a gold ivy with a green center (see p.16). The terminal lobe is elongated and the two lateral lobes are at right angles. It is a medium green with streaks of gold throughout. The leaf darkens with age.
**H.h. 'Goldstern'**

95-168 (BF, V)

This is a variegated sport from *H.h. 'Star'* selected in 1979 by Brother Heick at Neuburg Monastery, Germany. Young growth is yellow-to-chartreuse with an irregular darker green center, like our photo, the older growth is a medium green. The leaves are five lobed and star-shaped. The terminal lobe is often twice as long as the laterals, with the basal lobes pointing backwards.

---

**H.h. 'Helena'**

89-069 (BF, V)

'Helena' was found in 1980 by the late David Clark, treasurer of AIS, who named it for his wife. It has a typical bird's foot shape with five lobes and a prominent, curved, narrow terminal lobe. The margins are cream to white, the green center is splashed with patches of green and gray.

---

**H.h. 'Icicle'**

06-010 (BF, V)

This ivy was purchased in 1991 at the AIS convention in San Diego by AIS member Donald Nilsen. The leaves are three-to-four times as long as wide and irregularly lobed with many leaves unlobed, to leaves with one or two basal lobes. The extra lobing is more prominent in the new growth in the spring. Variegation is somewhat unusual; the leaves have a whiter margin with a green-gray center and an overlaying of a white wash on the whole leaf, with some of the leaves being almost all white with just a hint of green underneath.
**H.h. 'Lady Frances'
91-900 (V, M, BF)**

This ivy is a sport of 'Schafer Three' with three-to-five irregular lobed leaves. The central leaf areas are randomly splashed with various shades of gray that are sometimes overlaid with a deeper gray-green. The bold white border is wider in some areas than others. No two leaves are quite alike. It is compact and strongly self-branching. 'Lady Frances' was "Ivy of the Year 2001".

**H.h. 'Lightfinger'
95-169 (BF, V)**

This yellow ivy was imported from Fibrex Nurseries, England. The leaves are star-shaped and have three to five lobes. The terminal lobe is twice as long as the laterals with the basal lobes pointing backwards. Under strong light, the new growth is a bright yellow becoming chartreuse to light green with age. Our photo is from an older plant which is why it appears as an over-all light green.

**H.h. 'Little Hermann'
06-019 (BF, V)**

This ivy has a similar leaf shape and variegation pattern as 'Icicle' but does not have the whitewash over the leaf. It also has an irregular white margin, with some of the leaves having no margin at all, just the green-gray irregular variegation pattern.
**H. h. 'Miniken'**
95-013 (BF, V, M)

This is a mutation from 'Eva' found by AIS Registrar Russell Windle in 1993. The leaves, tightly arranged around the stem, are small, ovate and unlobed except during rapid growth, when they may have an occasional lobe or two. It is very self branching.

**H. h. 'Misty'** (Syn. 'Silver Lace')
86-137 (BF, V, M)

This is another sport of 'Needlepoint'. It is a small, compact, self-branching ivy with five narrow lobes. The center is colored various shades of gray with white veins and a very narrow white margin. It was an AIS selection in 1995 as a good outdoor Ivy.

**H. h. 'Nice Guy'**
88-227 (BF, V)

This is a presumed sport of 'Irish Lace'. The leaves are three lobed and asymmetrical with an irregular margin that is chartreuse. The center has shades of gray on chartreuse. It is self-branching.
'H.h. ‘Sagittaefolia Variegata’
88-237 (BF, V)

‘Sagittaefolia Variegata’, contrary to its name, is NOT a variegated form of ‘Sagittaefolia’ which is a heart shaped ivy. It is most definitely a Bird’s Foot ivy with three-to-five lobes. The terminal lobe is twice the length of the laterals. The variegation is most prominent on new growth under cool temperatures. The leaves become all green with age.

‘H.h. ‘Spectre’
82-142 (BF, V)

‘Spectre’ has three-to-five narrow lobes with deep sinuses. The lobes are sometimes curly and twisted. When young it is a mid-green with streaks of yellow. The variegation is most prominent in new growth, under cool temperatures. Our photo is of an older plant.

‘H.h. ‘Tiger Eyes’
88-248 (BF, V)

This is the only centrally variegated Bird’s Foot ivy. The variegation is yellow-to-chartreuse following along the major veins. It was selected by Ken Frieling in the Glasshouse Works nursery at Stewart, Ohio. The leaves are five lobed and medium green, with a narrow terminal lobe that is two-to-four times as long as it is broad. The lateral lobes are at right angles, with small basal protusions. Color is best in the spring under cool conditions.
**H.h. 'Topazolite'**
95-398 (BF,V,M)

This is the first Bird's Foot ivy with a 'Gold Dust' variegation pattern. It is a sport of 'Needlepoint'. The leaves have three-to-five lobes with the terminal lobe almost twice as long as the lateral lobes. The variegation of the leaves is yellow-to-chartreuse, with specks and splashes of green and gray.

**H.h. 'Tristram'**
91-747 (BF,V)

'Tristram' is presumably named for the hero of a medieval romance (Tristram and Isolde), not the hero of Wagner's opera (Tristan and Isolde). The leaves are three lobed with the terminal lobe twice as long as the laterals. The lateral lobes point forward; leaf base is obtuse. The leaves are gray-green washed with cream; the leaf margin is pure white.

**H.h. 'Tussie Mussie'**
88-251 (BF,V)

This ivy is a presumed sport of 'Shamrock' with extremely variable leaves. Because it is a very compact plant, it probably gets its name from the small compact nose-gay of flowers carried in Elizabethan and Victorian times. The leaves are usually three lobed, but sometimes unlobed or with two small additional lobes. The leaf color is a medium green with various marbled and speckled areas of gray, gray-green or nearly white.
**VARIGATED MINIATURES**

**H.h. ‘Ardingly’**
88-017 (M, V)

This small, compact self-branching variegated ivy has three lobes with the terminal lobe longer than the others. The center is green to gray-green with an irregular, cream to white margin. It was found by Hazel Key of Fibrex Nurseries in a garden in Ardingly, Sussex, England. It may be a mutation from ‘Glacier’.

**H.h. ‘Blue Moon’**
95-012 (M, V)

‘Blue Moon’, a mutation of ‘Little Diamond’ was found and named by Russell Windle of Hedera etc. who describes the gray cast over the leaf surface as giving it a blue color. Leaves are unlobed, lanceolate to diamond shaped and are closely arranged on a stiff stem. The new growth is light green, but turning a bluish green with age.

**H.h. ‘Goldilocks’**
88-142 (M, V)

Leaves are three-lobed to triangular with a heart-shaped base. The leaf variegation is variable with some leaves bright gold, some with an irregular green center; while others leaves are half green and half gold. If you find an all-green leaf, it should be removed.
H.h. ‘Henriette’
88-072 (M,V)

‘Henriette’ is an unusual ivy because the leaves are consistently oblong, elliptical or nearly linear, and are approximately twice as long as they are wide. The leaf tips are always rounded. The variegation is white with green speckles throughout, and very similar to that of its German parent plant ‘Kolibri’. ‘Henriette’ is self-branching and can be used effectively as a potted specimen or as a ground cover for small areas. Because it is able to climb, it could be used on small fences or walls.

H.h. ‘Jubilee’
88-217 (M,V)

‘Jubilee’ is one of the prettiest variegated miniature ivies. The smallest leaves are no more than one-half inch long and wide. Its three colors vie with its shape for beauty. The light silvery-green leaves are edged creamy-white with dollops of dark green splashed on the leaves. No two leaves are colored the same. Even the veins are interesting. On some, they are hardly noticeable. On others they are raised and whitish. The only drawback is that it is a slow, slow grower but is freely self-branching with a profusion of leaves on every vine.

H.h. ‘Lucille’
97-071 (V, M)

This sport of ‘Little Diamond’ was discovered by Cliff Coon of Freemont, CA, and named for his wife. The diamond – shaped leaves are ovate-to-three-lobed and closely spaced on the stem. It is smaller and more uniform than ‘Little Diamond’.
**H. h. ‘Mini-Ester’**
88-047 (BF, M, V)

This variegated Danish import has bird’s foot type leaves that are small and three-lobed. The terminal lobe is twice as long as it is broad. It is green to gray-green with white to cream marginal variegation. Very compact and self-branching.

**H. h. ‘Shadow’**
95-182

This ivy, a sport of H. h. ‘Henriette, was selected by Pat Hammer, Encinitas, California. The leaves are longer than wide, with predominately three lobes and a cordate base. The terminal lobe is elongated. The variation is a solid gray to a gray-green center with a regular white margin. The leaves are spaced closely on the branch. Highly self-branching.

**H. h. ‘William Kennedy’**
81-144 (V, M)

This ivy was found as a sport of ‘Little Diamond’ which, in turn, is a sport of ‘Glacier’. It was named by British ivy enthusiast Fred Kennedy to honor his son. This color of this variegated miniature ivy is gray-green with slight cream-yellow variegation mostly at the leaf margins. The shape of the leaves is extremely variable from lobes with broad sinuses, to a single-lobed leaf with shallow sinuses.
VARIGATED HEART SHAPED

**H.h. ‘Chester’**
AIS 07-023 (V, H)

It is easy to be confused about the correct name of this plant. ‘Chester looks a great deal like ‘Cavendishii’, and ‘Aurea Variegata’. When grown outdoors it also looks like ‘Tricolor. Some believe it was named for Chester in England. Others say it was named for Chester, Pennsylvannia in the U.S.

AIS identifies ‘Chester’ as flat, broadly triangular to three-lobed, with a heart-shaped base. In young leaves the ground color is lime-green with a dark-green central splash. In older leaves the ground color turns cream-white and the center darkens.

**H.h. ‘Eugene Hahn’**
AIS 92-064 (V, H)

Br. Ingobert Heieck described this variegated sport of ‘Sylvanian’ as an ivy having” … leaves dappled and speckled with light green, dark green, gray-green and white to yellowish-white distributed in large or small patches over the whole leaf.” This speckling may not be to everyone’s taste, but it is certainly distinctive. The color of this heart-shaped ivy is best with cool temperatures. With age the leaves become more plain green.

**H.h. ‘Funny Girl’**
AIS 03-034 (V, H)

This ivy was found by Fibrex Nursery as a sport of H.h. ‘Ursula’ and was sent to AIS by Angela Tandy. The leaves are slightly longer than wide, heart-shaped to three-lobed, with a cordate base. The color follows the main veins and is bright chartreuse-green with irregular darker-green splashes through the center. Color darkens with age, and becomes green speckled with yellow flecks between the veins.
H.h. ‘Jake’
AIS 03-034 (V, H, M)

This ivy was found by Ursula Key Davis of Fibrex Nurseries in 1999 as a sport of H.h. ‘Lightfinger’ (see Ivy Journal 2011, Vol.37, page 21). Some of the leaves are heart-shaped, others have three rounded lobes with a cordate base. The leaf shape is similar to H.h. ‘Christian’. The terminal lobe is elongated to twice the size of the basal lobes. The color is bright-yellow on the new growth, which fades to pale lime-green with age. Bright light and cool temperature intensify the color. The leaves are short jointed, and the plant is very self branching.

H.h. ‘Limey’
AIS 94-041 (V, H)

We are not sure if the name of this ivy from England is a play on words. The slang word “Limey” was originally used to describe British sailors who ate limes on the long voyage to the New World to prevent scurvy. But it could equally indicate the color of the ivy – lime-green. It has medium-to-large leaves with three rounded lobes and a heart-shaped base. It has good lime-green color throughout the leaf, but the color fades to light-green on older leaves. The color is best in good light and cool temperatures.

H.h. ‘Sepia’
AIS 08-159 (H, V)

The origin of this cultivar is not known. It was sent to AIS by Andreas Honemann of the German Ivy Society who received it from the nursery of Ralf-Peter Stauss in Moglingen, Germany. The leaves are unlobed to barely three-lobed with a cordate base. The variegation is gray to green-gray in the center, with whitish veins, and a wide white margin.
GLOSSARY

Acuminate  Tapering to a point
Basal lobes  The two lower leaf lobes. Sometimes so small they may go almost unnoticed.
Cordate  Heart-shaped.
Cuneate  Wedge shaped at leaf base, tapering to the petiole
Fasciation  Forms a bunch.
Lanceolate  Shaped like a spear blade
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.
Ovate  Egg shaped in outline

Pierot System of Classification

- Varigated Ivies (V)
- Curlies (C)
- Miniatures (M)
- Bird’s Foot Ivies (BF)
- Heart-shapes (H)
- Adult (A)
- Fans (F)
- Ivy-Ivies (I)
- Oddities (O)

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”.

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LEAF SHAPES

- Deltoid
- Lanceolate
- Ovate

LEAF APICES

- Acuminate
- Acute
- Obtuse

LEAF BASES

- Cuneate
- Cordate
- Truncate

Drawing by AIS member Daphne Pfaff
IVY OF THE YEAR 2010
Hedera helix ‘Ritterkreuz’

IVY OF THE YEAR 2011
Hedera helix ‘Ivalace’

IVY OF THE YEAR 2012
Hedera helix ‘Henriette’

IVY OF THE YEAR 2013
Hedera helix ‘Minigreen’

IVY OF THE YEAR 2014
Hedera helix ‘Teneriffé’

IVY OF THE YEAR 2015
Hedera helix ‘Conglomerata’
IVY OF THE YEAR 2016
Hedera helix ‘Midas Touch’

The American Ivy Society has selected Hedera helix ‘Midas Touch’ as the ivy of the Year for 2016. It is a “Variegated” in the Pierot Classification System. This Beautiful Danish introduction was first imported to Great Britain in 1993 by the Frode Maegaard Hedera Nursery of Ringe, which listed it as ‘Golden Kolibri’, an unaccepted name under ICNCP rules which preclude prefixes to existing names, such as ‘Kolibri’. Mr. Stephen Taffler of the British Ivy Society suggested the name ‘Midas Touch’, and a new ivy was named.

The leaves are heart-shaped to barely three lobed, with a cordate base. The color is bright gold to yellow, with a rich green margin and center splashes of green. The stems and petioles are pink. The pink and yellow colors deepen with cooler temperatures.

This ivy makes a beautiful house plant. While not as winter hardy as some, if planted outside, some extra protection may be needed. It also has a tendency to produce green leaved stems that should be removed.

The bold gold and green coloration of this ivy may not be to everyone’s taste, but the outstanding combination is worth a try.
## INDEX TO PHOTOS

All are *Hedera helix*

### VARIGATED IVIES

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