

IVY JOURNAL

IVY OF THE YEAR 2014
Hedera helix 'Conglomerata'

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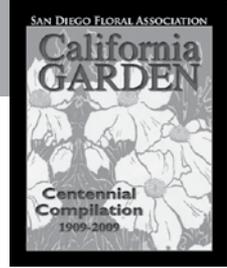
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Cover: *Hedera helix* 'Conglomerata', Ivy of the Year 2015
Photo by Rachel Cobb

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 MINIATURES

By Suzanne Warner Pierot, President, American Ivy Society

The “Miniatures” are ivies shaped much like larger-leaved ivies except that the leaves are considerably smaller, usually an inch or less in length or width. You will notice that most of the Miniatures belong to another category, mainly Bird’s Foot (BF) or Variegated (V), although there are a few that are shaped like a Fan (F) or Curly (C). They look great growing on a window sill where several pots can be grouped together. As with any plant in a small pot, pay careful attention to the watering because a small pot dries out quickly. Also be careful not to overwater nor let the pot or container sit in water for any period of time as the soil may become water-logged.

As the vines begin to grow long, consider making a tabletop topiary. You will find complete instructions for making them in “*The New Topiary, Imaginative Techniques From Longwood Gardens*” (Garden Art Press, 1991) written by Pat Hammer, Vice-President of the American Ivy Society.

AIS in 2010 began publishing a complete photographic reference collection of ivy (*Hedera*) in its *Ivy Journal*. No one has ever done this, and it would not be possible except for the horticultural expertise of Russell Windle, International Registrar of *Hedera*, who also houses the AIS reference collection of ivy in his

“Hedera etc” greenhouse. The close-up photographs have all been taken by well-known photographer, Rachel Cobb, whose work hangs in many galleries.

The 2010 issue described and had photographs of the species of *Hedera* other than *H. helix* *H. algeriensis*, *H. azorica*, *H. canariensis*, *H. colchica*, *H. cypria*, *H. hibernica*, *H. iberica*, *H. maderensis*, *H. maroccana*, *H. nepalensis*, *H. pastuchovii*, *H. rhizomatifera* and *H. rhombea*.)

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.

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

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.



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Ivy Journal - Back issues available with
color photos of *Hedera* species



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THE IVY BOOK: The Growing and Care of Ivy and Ivy Topiary

Peter Rose's Book *The Gardener's Guide to Growing Ivies*
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MINIATURES



H.h. 'Alt Heidelberg'

79-330 (M)

This ivy, probably a sport of 'Pittsburgh', is short-jointed and compact. Selected in 1972 by Brother Ingobert Heieck of the Benedictine Monastery of Neuberg near Heidelberg. The originally proposed name was 'Heidelberg' but was changed to 'Alt Heidelberg' (Old Heidelberg) to avoid confusion with *H. 'Heidelbergensis'*, a large-leaved form of *H. colchica*. 'Alt Heidelberg' has small, asymmetrical, diamond-shaped leaves with margins rolled under. Compact and self branching.



H.h. 'Anita'

92-169 (M, BF)

'Anita' is a miniature version of *H.h.* 'Ritterkreuz' with leaves that are medium to dark green, somewhat shiny and slightly folded upward along the midrib. It is five-lobed with the terminal lobe twice as long as the lateral lobes, while the basal lobes are mere projections. Very compact and self-branching. Found in California by Bob Hornback who named it after his mother.



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'.

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H.h. 'Arran'

94-002 (I, M)

This small ivy, collected in the wild, comes from the island of Arran off the coast of Scotland where it was found in the 1980's by Alison Rutherford. With a slightly cordate base and pointed tips, it has three lobes with the terminal lobe twice as long as the laterals. New foliage is a medium-green, becoming dark green with age. It is exceptionally hardy.



H.h. 'Baby Face'

94-004 (M)

'Baby Face' is a small, compact and self-branching ivy. The leaves are mostly three-lobed, but some leaves are unlobed and triangular. The new leaves have a reddish edge. It is a slow grower.



H.h. 'Bill Archer'

92-055 (BF, M)

'Bill Archer' was found in England by the late Stephen Taffler, President of the British Ivy Society who wanted to call it 'Archer's Lace'. That name was rejected because the apostrophe would make it an invalid name. 'Bill Archer' has unlobed, linear leaves, with the leaf margin rolled under. Some lobing is found during rapid growth. It has extreme variation and requires rigorous removal of reverted shoots. There are similar plants sold under the name 'Pencil Point'. The origin of this clone is probably 'Spear Point'.



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. 'Cascade'

82-268 (M, I, C)

This ivy is a sport of 'Merion Beauty' with small, uniform, ivy-shaped leaves that have a slight curl in the sinuses. The leaves are five lobed. Compact and extremely self-branching. A good plant for pot culture or topiary work.



H.h. 'Christian'

79-335 (H, M)

There is some confusion about the correct name of this ivy. After reviewing the written records, it appears that 'Director Badke' was the first published name. Unfortunately a similar ivy had already been named 'Christian' by the Stauss Nurseries who withdrew it when they found the ivy was already named. However the name 'Christian' was already established in America, and seems to have stuck.

The leaves are heart-shaped to three rounded lobes, with a compact self-branching habit .



H.h. 'Duck Foot'
88-074 (BF, M)

'Duck Foot', whose small leaves really do resemble the webbed foot of a duck, was chosen by AIS in 2004 as the "Ivy of the Year". 'Duck Foot' has been around since the late 1970's when it was discovered as a sport of H.h. 'Merion Beauty'. Because it is very compact and self-branching, it is well suited for pots, baskets and topiaries. The new growth is shiny, and light green, becoming darker with age.



H.h. 'Frosty'
79-255 (BF, M, V)

This small five-lobed ivy has star-shaped leaves with blunt tips. The leaf blade is slightly folded upward. New growth, especially in spring, is white to cream-white, with green veins. The leaves become mottled green to all-green with age. This ivy appears to be a variegated form of 'Mini-green'.



H.h. 'Golden Drake'
11-033 (BF, M, V)

This new ivy was selected from 'Duck Foot' by AIS registrar Russell Windle in 2011. It is basically a gold 'Duck Foot'. The leaves are small, with three rounded lobes. A compact and self-branching plant.



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. 'Green Feather' (Syn. 'Meagheri')

79-042 (BF, M)

It is one of the quirks of ivy nomenclature that the first name published is the name that has validity. 'Green Feather' is a sport discovered in 1939 by Mr. Meagher in Albany, New York. In 1940 Bates, writing in the *National Horticulture Magazine*, described the plant using the name 'Green Feather'. This was an authentic publication and therefore 'Green Feather' became the valid name and 'Meagheri' only a synonym. Too bad for Mr. Meagher. The small leaves with three-to-five lobes, are folded upward along the midrib, sometimes folding the leaf in half.



H.h. 'Hedge Hog'

92-167 (BF, M)

This charming little ivy was found about 1985 as a sport of 'Kobold' by AIS member Gordon Kinney. Each leaf is folded in half along the mid-rib, giving the appearance of small quills projecting out from the stem. In reality, the leaves are unlobed to three-lobed, and are packed tightly around the stem. The habit is upright. Occasionally, highly fasciated growth appears at the end of a stem giving a tight ball of leaves.



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. 'lantha'

89-088 (BF, M)

This lovely little miniature doesn't look much like ivy - more like a small grass, fern or even rosemary. The plant is densely hairy and quite self-branching. The wiry dark green three-lobed leaves are scarcely wider than the main vein. In spite of the scantiness of the leaf surface, it is still possible to feel the minutely rolled-under leaf margin which can be felt between the thumb and forefinger. 'lantha' was found by Allen Haskell at his nursery in New Bedford, Massachusetts, sporting on an old 'Maple Queen' ivy that had been growing for 30 years in that location.



H.h. 'Irish Lace'

AIS 94-029 (BF, M)

This is a true Bird's Foot ivy. If you've ever seen the track of a bird's foot in sand, then you'll be quick to spot this most interesting ivy. Most of the leaves are miniature in size although some grow over an inch long - but enough are small enough for us to describe it as a "Miniature" as well as a "Bird's Foot". It has long, flat, dark green five-lobed leaves with rolled margins. A great plant for use in topiaries.



H.h. 'Itsy-Bitsy' (Syn. 'Pin Oak')

94-030 (BF, M)

This ivy was introduced by Merry Gardens, Camden, Maine, as a sport of 'Needlepoint'. The leaves are small, mostly less than one inch in length, with three bluntly pointed lobes and a terminal lobe that is twice as long as the laterals. Occasionally there will be two basal lobes. The plants are short jointed, and very self-branching.



H.h. 'Jessica'

08-265 (F, M)

This charming ivy was sent to us by the German Ivy Society, and it appears to have originated in the Netherlands. The leaves are dark green, with predominately three forward-pointed lobes and parallel sides. The terminal lobe is twice as long as the lateral. The veins are raised, lighter green, and radiate in a fan shape from the petiole. Some leaves are unlobed, almost spade-shaped. Plants are very self-branching



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. 'Kobold'

82-049 (BF, M)

This charming miniature Bird's Foot ivy is a smaller version of 'Wichtel' from which it was selected in 1980 by Brother Ingobert Heieck in the Neuburg Monastery Nursery at Heidelberg, Germany. 'Kobold' has leaves about half the size of its 'parent', 1 to 1 1/2 times as long as broad, mostly unlobed or with one or two asymmetrical basal protusions. There is a slight pucker at the base of the blade and is a lighter green than 'Wichtel'. Kobold is the German word for elf or goblin.



H.h. 'Lady Frances'

91-900 (BF, M, V)

AIS "Ivy of the Year" began in 2001 and 'Lady Frances' was the first ivy to receive this honor. This ivy, a sport of 'Schafer Three', has three -to -five, irregular lobed leaves with gray and white variegation. The leaves are small, highly asymmetrical, and about an inch or less long. No two leaves are quite alike. The central leaf areas are randomly splashed with various shades of gray, sometimes overlaid with a deeper gray-green. The bold white border is wider in some areas than others. Strongly self-branching and compact.



H.h. 'Lady Kay'

94-031 (BF, M)

This American ivy has small, triangular to three-lobed leaves, and is very self-branching.



H.h. 'La Plata'

88-218 (BF, M)

This ivy, registered in 1977 by Henri Schaezman of La Plata, Maryland, is very similar to 'Needlepoint' with predominantly three-lobed leaves, except that the small leaves are more hairy and the tips of the lobes are more rounded or with basal protuberances. Very self-branching and compact.



H.h. 'Leprechaun'

99-011 (M, BF)

'Leprechaun' is a miniature form of 'Irish Lace' with dark green, flat, shiny leaves and very narrow, elongated lobes. However the leaves are smaller and the plant is more compact and self branching than 'Irish Lace'.



H.h. 'Lilliput'

82-273 (BF, M.C.)

'Lilliput' is a sport of 'Pixie' and was found by Frank Batson of Oregon in 1982. It has dark green, twisted, asymmetrical leaves. The lateral lobes are deeply cut, forward-pointing and folded. It is densely self-branching and compact. The name comes from Jonathan Swifts book *Gulliver's Travels* where Lilliput is the name of the country inhabited by a race of tiny people.

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H.h. 'Lucille'

97-071 (V, M)

This sport of 'Little Diamond' was discovered by Cliff Coon of Fremont, 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. 'Merion Beauty'

88-222 (M, I)

This is a very old sport of 'Pittsburgh' with small, three to five-lobed leaves. The plants make mounds of foliage and are very compact, bushy and self-branching.



H.h. 'Midget'

79-800 (BF, M)

This ivy, registered in 1978 by Leo Swicegood, is a small, compact version of 'Needlepoint'. It has bird's foot-shaped bright-green leaves that usually have three-lobes, occasionally five, and a pair of reduced basal lobes. Self-branching.



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. 'Mini-green'

79-011 (BF, M)

The origin of this clone is not known. It has five, small bird's foot type lobes with blunt tips. The leaves are slightly folded upwards at the base, and the terminal lobe is slightly curled downwards. Compact and self-branching.



H.h. 'Minikin'

95-013 (M, V)

This is a mutation from 'Eva', found by AIS Registrar Russell Windle in 1993. The leaves, lightly arranged around the stem, are small and ovate 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, M, V)

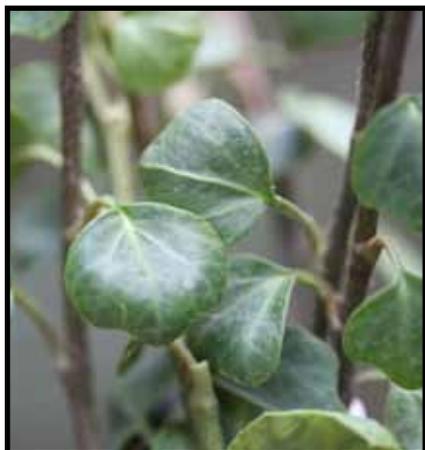
This is another sport of 'Needlepoint'. It is a small, compact, self-branching ivy with five narrow lobes. The center is colored various shades of gray, with white veins and a very narrow white margin. It was selected by AIS in 1955 as a good outdoor ivy.



H.h. 'Mrs. Ulin'

91-089 (I, M)

This ivy was named in 1995 by long-time AIS member, Dr. Charles Dunham to honor the late Mrs. Alexander Ulin of Claymont, Delaware. This small ivy is a medium- to-dark green with three-to-five lobes and raised veins. It is a good outdoor ivy for small areas.



H.h. 'Peter Pan'

96-016 (M)

This unusual ivy has been around since at least 1988. At first glance it appears to be a small version of *H.h.* 'Duck Foot', but upon closer examination you can see the difference. Leaves are 1/2- to 3/4- inches wide and long, are cupped and nearly round to just barely three-lobed. The color is a dull green, the veins are raised and radiate out from the petiole. Very self-branching with thin, wiry stems.

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H.h. 'Pin Oak'
89-024 (BF, M)

The frequency with which 'Pin Oak' arises from 'Koniger' leads us to the conclusion that 'Pin Oak' is a sport of that plant. The cultivars 'Staghorn' and 'Ferney' are, we believe, also identical plants. 'Pin Oak' was on the AIS Check-list of 1975 but was first introduced by the nursery of Henry Faust Inc. in 1941. This small, compact, self-branching, three-lobed ivy with rounded tips, makes mounds of small leaves. It is useful both as a pot plant and as a ground cover.



H.h. 'Shadow'
95-182

This ivy, a sport of H.h. 'Henriette', was selected by AIS Vice President, 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. 'Spetchley', Syn. 'Gnome'
91-125 (M)

This is one of the smallest ivies, with many leaves that are barely 1/4 to a half-inch. With age it sometimes has a few normal sized leaves which should be removed to keep the miniature characteristic. The shiny, dark green leaves are unlobed or have barely three rounded lobes. It is densely self-branching and can be made into an interesting bonsai.



H.h. 'Spinosa', Syn. 'Spinoza' or 'Spinozia'
83-150 (H, M)

We do not know who named this ivy. Our guess is that it was named by someone who wanted to remain anonymous to acknowledge the words of Benedict de Spinoza, the 17th century philosopher who said "Pride is pleasure from a man's thinking too highly of himself".

H.h. 'Spinoza' is medium -green with very small heart-shaped to unlobed leaves. It is self branching with an upright growth habit.



H.h. 'Topazolite'

95-398 (BF, M, V)

'Topazolite' was discovered in 1994 as a sport of 'Needlepoint' by AIS Registrar Russell A. Windle in his nursery "Hedera etc.", Lionville, Pennsylvania. A single leaf on a plant of 'Needlepoint' was observed to have a gold streak in it. The stem was cut just above this leaf, and when the auxillary bud at the base of that leaf started to grow, the entire leaf was variegated with a 'Gold Dust'-like variegation. It is unique in that there are no other speckled-variegated Bird's Foot ivies. 'Topazolite' is a 'Gold Dust' colored ivy with leaves the size and shape of the Bird's Foot ivy, 'Midget'.



H.h. 'Troll'

91-796 (F, M)

This ivy resembles a miniature 'Triton'. The leaves are small and three-lobed, with the center lobe being the longest. It is light to medium-green and is very self-branching.



H.h. 'Walthemensis'

92-040 (M, I)

This ivy was first described by William Paul in 1867. Resembles a small 'Hibernica'. Leaves are three-lobed with shallow sinuses. In winter the dark green leaves become blackish-green with white veins. It is very hardy, with good ground coverage despite small leaves.



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.

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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



Variegated Ivies (V)



Curlies (C)



Miniatures (M)



Bird's Foot Ivies (BF)



Heart-shapes (H)



Adult (A)



Fans (F)



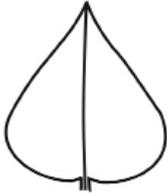
Ivy-ivies (I)



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".

LEAF SHAPES



Deltoid

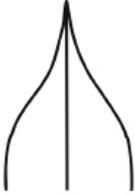


Lanceolate



Ovate

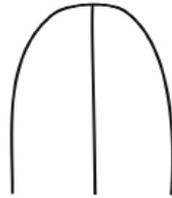
LEAF APICES



Acuminate

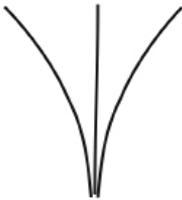


Acute

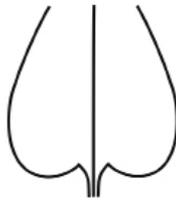


Obtuse

LEAF BASES



Cuneate



Cordate



Truncate

Drawing by AIS member Daphne Pfaff

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2014 NEW REGISTRATION

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 is associated with a specific ivy. In addition, a herbarium specimen is made and deposited in the Willard Sherman Turrell Herbarium (MU), Department of Biology, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, 45056, and the Claude E. Phillips Herbarium (DOV), Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Delaware State University, Dover, Delaware, 19901-2277. The letter(S) in parentheses after the cultivar name refer(s) to the Pierot Classification System (Pierot 1974, 1995), and *Knowing and Growing Ivy* (AIS 1997-2014). The AIS numbers are identification/ verification numbers used by the American Ivy Society to keep track of the history of every ivy sent for identification. The first two digits are the last two digits of the year the ivy was received and the last three digits are the sequential numbering during that year. All new cultivars are presumed sports of *Hedera helix*, unless otherwise noted.

Hedera helix 'Golden Drake'

BF, V, M

By

Russell A. Windle, Registrar

HISTORY

'Golden Drake' (AIS 11-033) fig. 1, is a Bird foot (BF), Variegated (V), Miniature (M) ivy in the Pierot Classification System (Pierot, 1974, 1995). [Duck Foot Mutant #2, Windle 2011] This ivy is being registered by Russell Windle, from Hedera etc., Lionville, PA 19353. This ivy was found as a single leaf, which was half green and half gold on a stock basket of *Hedera helix* 'Duck Foot'. After cutting back the stem to that mutated leaf, and letting the new shoot grow, cuttings were taken from that shoot. After propagating that cutting, an all gold shoot developed. Further cuttings from this all gold shoot, produced the stock of this new ivy.

'Golden
Drake'



'Duck
Foot'

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Hedera helix 'Golden Drake'

DESCRIPTION

This small, compact, self-branching ivy has three to barely five rounded lobes, with a cordate base. Leaves and habit, much like its parent plant 'Duck Foot', but with bright golden yellow new growth. Color holds well, but the oldest leaves do eventually turn a light green. This ivy can be used anywhere you would use 'Duck Foot', but with the added color it makes a nice contrast.

SIMILAR CULTIVARS

The closest ivy to Golden Drake, would be Duck Foot which has all the same characteristics except for the color. The next closest would be *Hedera helix* 'Jake', which has the gold coloration but with a slightly larger leaf.

LITERATURE CITED

Pierot, Suzanne Warner, 1974, (Classification) Chapter 1, and the beginning of each chapter describing a category. In: *The Ivy Book*, Macmillan Publishing Company, New York, 164 pp.

Pierot, Suzanne Warner, 1995. The Pierot Classification System, Chapter 5. In: *The Ivy Book: the Growing and Care of Ivy*, Second Edition, Garden by the Stream, Willow, New York, 184 pp.



IVY OF THE YEAR 2009
Hedera helix 'Eva'



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 'Teneriffe'

IVY OF THE YEAR 2015

Hedera helix 'Conglomerata'

The American Ivy Society has selected *Hedera helix* 'Conglomerata' as the ivy of the Year for 2015. It is an "Oddity" in the Pierot Classification system. It does not have the familiar grace and flow of most ivies, but has an exquisite style all its own. It would be right at home in a garden in Japan or in any formal setting. It can be used with dramatic effect in a dish garden on a coffee table.

It has been around for a long time. The first written mention of it seems to be in Nicholson's 1885 Dictionary of Gardening which described it as "a slow growing variety with small wavy leaves and very short internodes."

In 1889 Mr. Shirley Hibberd, writing in the Royal Horticultural Journal said, "'Conglomerata' has the merits of distinctness and though scarcely beautiful, is immensely interesting. The growth is in a somewhat geometric plan with the branches radiating regularly. The leaves are ovate, curled, frilled and overlap so as to form a dense umbricated mass. The color is a deep rich green. When trained to a wall its character is destroyed, it should be left perfectly free to spread in its own way on an open border or on a broad shelf in the rockery."

This unusual ivy has three-to-five-lobed thick, leathery leaves that are arranged in two ranks along a slightly flattened green stem. The leaves grow so closely together the look is almost contorted. It has a cordate base, and a sprawling, somewhat stiff habit.

'Conglomerata' will happily grow indoors or out. It has survived to -20 degrees F. It can be grown as a specimen plant, in a rock garden or as an unusual bonsai. With its slow growth, and unusual habit, it is a well-mannered, very stable ivy, which maintains its distinct appearance.



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INDEX TO PHOTOS

All are *Hedera helix*

MINIATURES IVIES

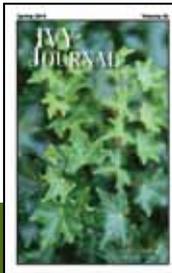
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Endowment Fund

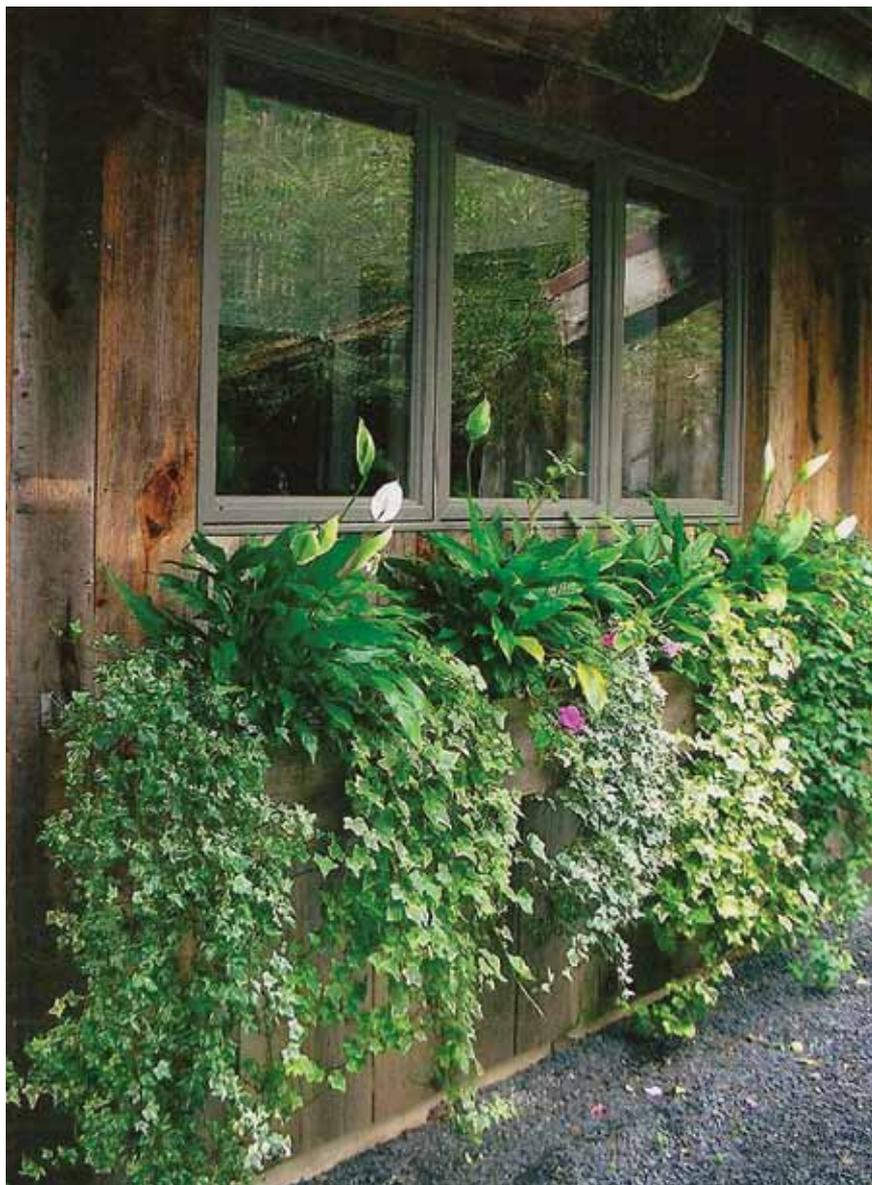
The American Ivy Society has established an Endowment Fund for the purpose of studying and propagating ivy, educating the public about ivy and promoting the appreciation and enjoyment of ivy.

Contributions may be sent to: AIS Treasurer, Susan Hendley
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Checks should be made payable to The American Ivy Society.
Please mark clearly: 'For AIS Endowment Fund'



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INSTANT GARDENING

The ivies in this New York window box are several years old – some are the gift plants sent to members once a year by AIS. During the winter months they live indoors on a window ledge. As soon as late spring arrives, they go directly into the window box looking full and lush. When they are watered it is easy to wash the foliage with a hose. Don't forget to feed them once a month with a balanced fertilizer – 10-10-10. –*Suzanne Pierot*

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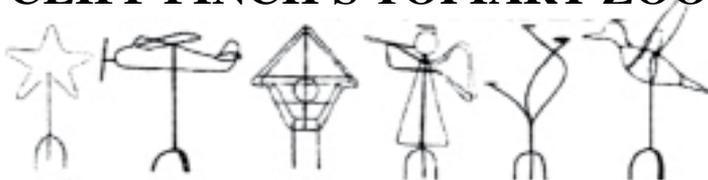
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