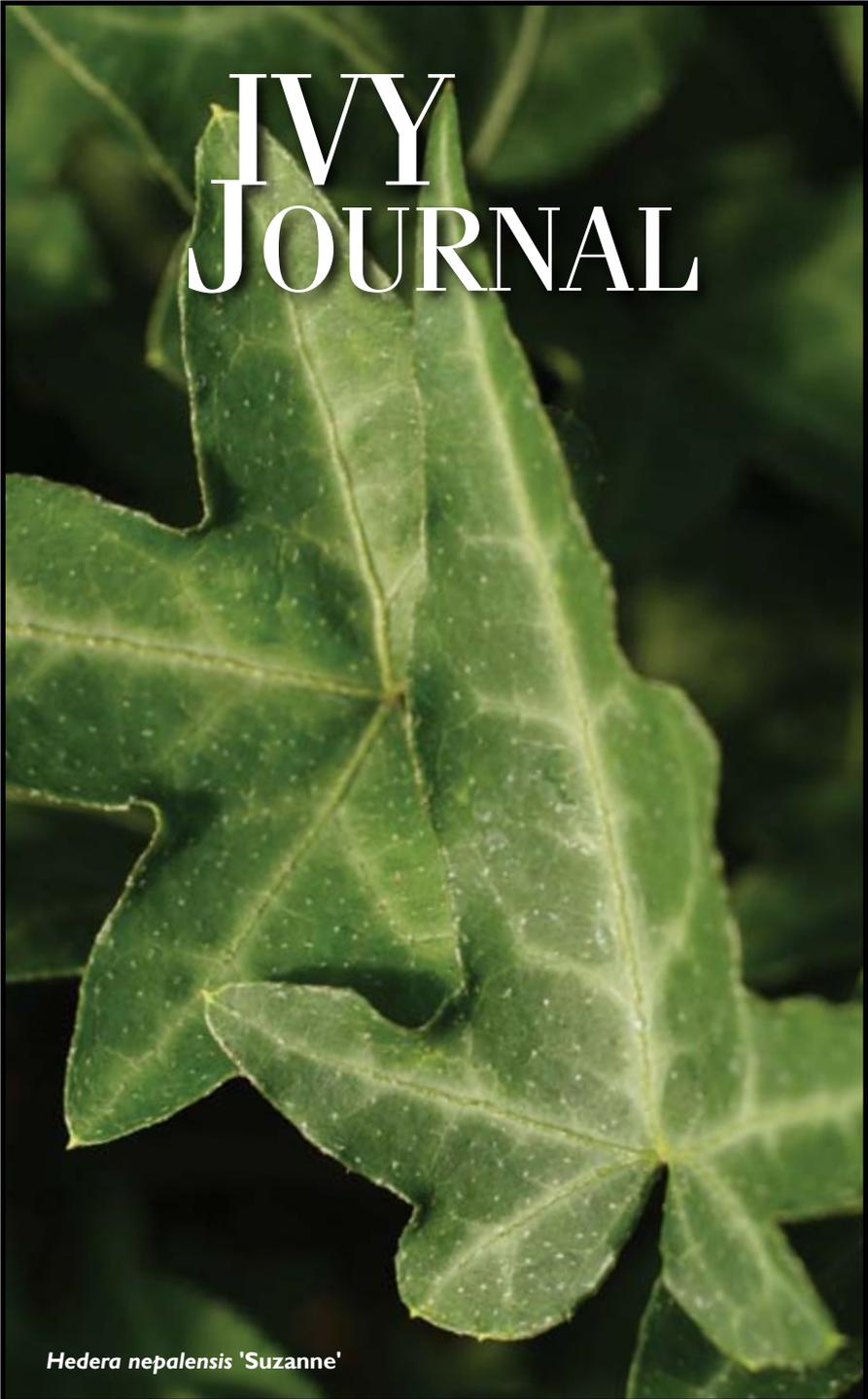


# IVY JOURNAL

*Hedera nepalensis* 'Suzanne'



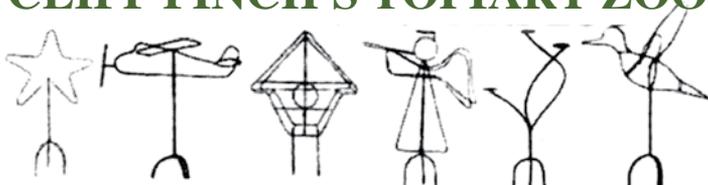
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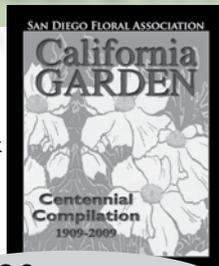


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We hope you will continue to visit us often at [www.ivy.org](http://www.ivy.org).  
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# IVY JOURNAL

Fall/Winter 2016

Volume 42

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Cover: *Hedera nepalensis* 'Suzanne' 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 Ivy-Ivies, Oddities, and Adult Ivies

By Russell A. Windle, Director of Research

**Ivy-Ivies** (I) as the name implies, are ivies that have a typical ivy shaped leaf, with pronounced terminal, lateral, and basal lobes, such as *Hedera helix* ‘Pittsburgh’

**Oddities** (O) are ivies that have unusual forms, such as fasciated, (flattened, compacted) stems, or distorted leaves, such as *Hedera helix* ‘Congesta’, or simply do not fit into one of the other classes.

**Adult, Aborescent** (A) *Hedera* has two distinct growth forms, the juvenile, which is the vining form we usually think of, and the adult form, in which the plants have lost their vining juvenile habit, and have stiff upright stems, or nearly so, and are capable of flowering and producing seeds.

Some of my favorite ivies fit into these categories. *Hedera helix* ‘Medusa’, one of my favorite ivies, has an unusual growth habit, with many differently shaped leaves.

AIS in 2010 began publishing this photographic reference collection of ivy (*Hedera*). 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*,

continued page 30

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## IVY IVIES & ODDITIES



### **Arabesque (O)**

AIS 95-005

(Ritterkreuz Mutant number 1, Windle, 1993)

A *Hedera* etc. exclusive introduction. This mutation of *Hedera helix* 'Ritterkreuz' doesn't look much like an ivy at all. New growth covered with silvery pubescences. As leaves mature the pubescences turns reddish brown, with the final color medium green as the pubescent wears off. Leaves: five to seven divided narrow lobes, not much wider than the veins. Slow growing, compact plants.



### **Arrowhead (I)**

AIS 79-402

Leaves broadly triangular about as long as broad with three to barely five lobes. Light green in color. Leaves with a dip or pinch at the base of the leaf where the petiole attaches. Makes long runners.



### **Baltica (I)**

AIS 83-063

One of the best hardy outdoor ground covers. This is a geographically selected ivy from the Baltics. Leaves medium-sized with three to five lobes and a heart-shaped base.

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### **Cathedral Wall (H, I)**

AIS 79-149

This ivy found at the Washington Cathedral, Washington D.C. Its main distinction is a large terminal lobe, which makes the leaf appear drawn out and almost lobe less. Unlobed, heart shaped to three and five lobes, cordate base, with a tapering blunt tip. Moss green



### **Chrysaor (O, V, F)**

AIS 06-072

This variegated sport from *Hedera helix* 'Medusa' has a stiff upright habit. The stems are fasciated, giving a thickened appearance. The leaves have 3 to 5 forward pointed lobes; the variegation is a bright "Gold Dusting" with splashes of gold, gray and green. This ivy makes an attractive mounding shrub with time.



### **Conglomerata (O)**

AIS 87-089

This unusual ivy has rounded, wavy, three-lobed leaves with cordate bases on a less pronounced upright habit. Branches are somewhat twisted. Will climb. Good rock garden or bonsai plant.



***H. rhombea***  
**'Crème de Menthe' (A)**

AIS 03-084

This is the adult form of *Hedera rhombea* 'Variegata'. The leaves are unlobed with a gray-green center and an irregular white margin. This upright growing shrub, flowers in late summer to fall, and produces bluish black berries in the winter.



**Dolly (O)**

AIS 94-016

This new ivy from England has unlobed, lanceolate leaves with a slight wave to the margin, giving the leaf a twisted appearance.



**Donerailensis (I)**

AIS 94-017

This three to five-lobed, glossy, dark green ivy came from Doneraile, Ireland, around 1850. This hardy outdoor ivy turns a deep wine-red in winter.



### **Emerald Globe (O)**

AIS 88-200

A fasciated sport of 'Shamrock'. Stout, thickened and flattened stems, densely clothed in small 'Shamrock'-like leaves. Leaves three-lobed with lateral lobes nearly divided to the petiole and overlapping.



### **Erecta (O)**

AIS 92-041

Leaves may be sharply pointed or barely rounded, three-lobed. Differs from 'Congesta' by having leaves not as angular, with larger and brighter green leaves as well as a stronger upright growth.



### ***H. algeriensis* 'Variegated Ghost Tree' (A)**

AIS 87-230

This is the adult form of *Hedera algeriensis* 'Gloire de Marengo'. Leaves ovate, streaked with gray-green, and marginally variegated with cream to white. Leaves widely spaced on upright stems; can become a small tree with age. Flowers in late summer to fall, followed by bluish-black berries in winter.

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### **Gold Shells (O,V)**

AIS 15-020

This sport of *Hedera helix* 'Golden Drake' has leaves that are oblong, convex with two to four teeth at the terminal end. New growth bright golden yellow, that fades to a pale yellow green with age.



### **Green Finger Adult (A)**

AIS 06-032

This adult ivy of *Hedera helix* 'Green Finger', is unusual for an adult as it has lobed leaves. Most adult ivies have unlobed leaves. This small shrub can have leaves that are unlobed, linear leaves to leaves that have one, two or more lobes. The terminal lobe is twice as long as the laterals. As with all adult ivies, it flowers in the late summer to fall, followed by bluish-black berries in winter.



### **Greenman (I)**

AIS 97-065

(Ritterkreuz mutant #5, Windle, 1996)

This *Hedera* etc. introduction has medium sized leaves about as long as wide, obscurely 5 lobed with the basal lobes appearing as teeth on the lateral lobes, and an overlapping cordate base. Margin of the leaf finely crested with the margin rolled under. Dull dark green. Vigorous grower, making long runners.



### **Harrison (I)**

AIS 86-071

Small, three to five-lobed, dark green leaves with whitish veins. Prominent, triangular; terminal lobe. Leaves turn dark purplish green in winter. Good outdoor ivy.



### **Kurios (O)**

AIS 88-040

(Shamrock mutant No.2, Heieck 1964)

Leaves mostly unlobed and rounded. Margin turns upward and downward. It has fasciated petioles and a stiff upright habit.



### **Mount Vernon (I)**

AIS 90-091

This ivy came from George Washington's home in Virginia. Of unknown origin, leaves mostly three lobed, and deeply heart shaped. The middle lobe is up to twice as long as the others; some leaves nearly star-shaped.



### **Nigra (I)**

AIS 88-049

An old English cultivar. Leaves small, three-lobed with a deep, dark-green color. Turning dark blackish-green in winter.



### **Pegasus (O, F)**

AIS 06-002

This selection from *Hedera helix* 'Medusa' has fan shaped leaves with 5 to 7 forward pointed lobes, each lobe has 4 to 5 large teeth, giving the appearance of more lobes. New growth is very pubescent, having a silvery-gray appearance. Stems are fasciated (thickened), with stems and leaves radiating out from all angles. Has an upright spreading habit.



### **Pittsburgh (I)**

82-314

The "Original" and first self-branching ivy from which most of our modern ivies can trace their heritage. Leaves three to five-lobed, sharply pointed; Leaf base heart-shaped.



### **Platensee (I)**

AIS 82-175

This ivy was found growing wild in 1968, by K.H. Jurgel, near Lake Balaton in Hungary. Platensee is the German word for Balaton. Leaves are three lobed with a cordate base; color dark green with lighter veins. Very winter hardy.



### **Reef Shell (O)**

AIS 92-097

A sport of 'Zebra'. Leaves oblong, convex with two to four teeth at the terminal end. Veins white and raised, with an irregular margin of cream to white, and a gray-green center. Gray to white streaks runs the length of the leaf. Very unusual plant.



### **Road Toad (O)**

AIS 16-010

This new ivy was found as a sport off of *Hedera helix* 'Golden Ingot'. It has unlobed rounded leaves, with most of the leaves concave or cupped upright. Stems are fasciated giving the plant an upright stiff habit.



### **Rotunda (O)**

AIS 92-170

This ivy was introduced by Cliff Coon of Freemont, California. It is a seedling selection from *H.h.* 'Bulgaria'. The most unique feature of this ivy are its peltate leaves, the attachment of the petiole to the center or near center of the leaf. The leaves are dull medium green, nearly round to 5 lobes, with the edges curled slightly down. A very interesting plant.



### **Rumania (I)**

AIS 91-115

A geographical variety found in a Rumanian state forest near Bucharest. Selected for its hardiness. Almost indistinguishable from *Baltica* but leaves flatter, dull, dark green, three-lobed, with a heart-shaped base and white veins.



### **Russelliana (O)**

AIS 95-162

Known as the candelabra ivy. Upright like 'Erecta', and 'Congesta'. Leaves three-lobed, light green with a cordate base and a bluntly acute tip. Larger and more vigorous than the other erect ivies.

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### **Schimmer (I)**

AIS 88-059

(Typ Schafer Mut. No. 1, Heieck, 1980)

Five-lobed, typical 'Pittsburgh' type leaves with a slight curl in the sinuses. Dark green with a bluish shine to the surface, self-branching.



### **Thorndale (I)**

AIS 92-118

In recent genetic testing, this ivy has been found to be a hybrid, most likely between *Hedera helix* and *Hedera hibernica*. Leaf shape very similar to *H. hibernica*, but shinier, and more winter hardy. Leaves are large, dark green, a little wider than long; five-lobed, with broad terminal and lateral lobes, and a cordate base. Margin of leaf has a slight ripple; veins whitish.



### **Touch of Class (I)**

AIS 88-250

A sport of 'Perfection'. Leaves five-lobed with broad pointed terminal and lateral lobes, and small basal lobes. Shiny dark green leaves, about as long as broad. What makes this ivy unique is the leaf margin is rolled under and irregularly crimped; sometimes excess leaf tissue near the margin gives a crested appearance.

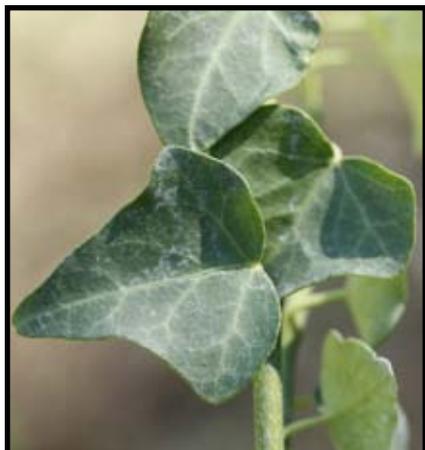
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### **Very Merry (O)**

AIS 88-276

This fasciated sport from 'Spinosa' has small elliptical leaves on a stiff upright habit. Very self-branching.



### **Wilson (I)**

AIS 90-070

This very winter hardy ivy has small dark green mat leaves with three blunt lobes. Leaves spaced widely along stem. Found growing on a house wall in Pittsburgh, PA, in 1936, and introduced from Wilson's Nursery.



### **Wilson Adult (A)**

AIS 97-024

This adult form of *Hedera helix* 'Wilson', has unlobed very dark green matt leaves; makes a nice small upright shrub. Flowers in late summer to fall, followed by small dark bluish-black fruits.

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### **Wingertsberg (I)**

AIS 81-194

This ivy was found growing wild near the Neuberg Monastery in Germany. Leaves three to five lobed, glossy dark green, becoming purplish-green outside in winter. Leaf base cordate, center lobe rounded, to wedge-shaped, and 2 ½ times as long as laterals. Great winter hardy ivy with outstanding winter color.



### **Woeneri (I)**

AIS 79-428

Recent genetic testing has shown that this ivy is also a hybrid, most likely between *Hedera helix*, and *Hedera hibernica*. Leaves, large, with three broad lobes, almost appearing broadly triangular in shape, color dull dark green with distinctive light-colored veins. Leaves take on a greenish purple coloration in winter



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# Adult Ivy

Ivy, *Hedera* is unique in that it has two distinct life forms, juvenile and adult. The juvenile is the form we most usually think of when we see ivy. It is the vining or climbing plant with long runners that creeps along the ground, or grows up a surface. But if you have been around ivy long enough, you will find growth that is much different; it will have an upright growth habit, will flower and produce berries. If cuttings are taken from this growth, it will grow into a small bush or tree.

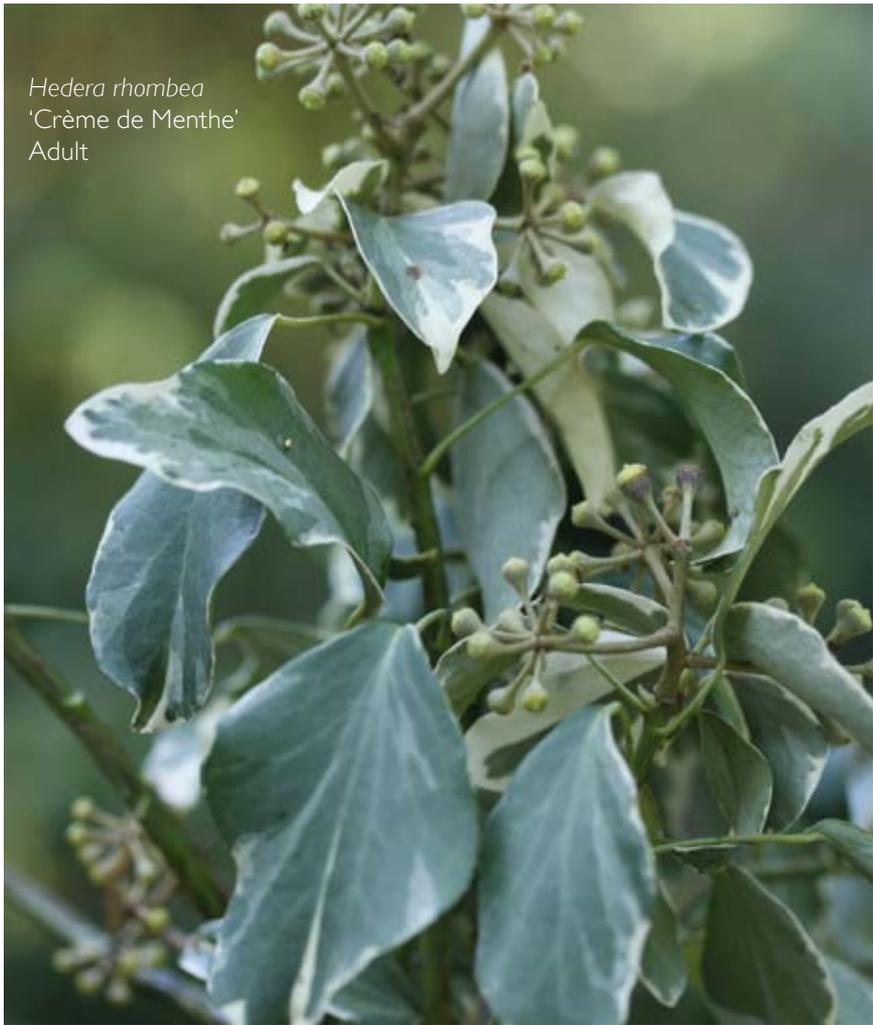
As we know all plants must produce flowers to reproduce. In most plants, you are actually growing the plants for these flowers. Ivy on the other hand is grown for its foliage, which comes in many forms, colors, and sizes. One of the interesting things with adult ivy is that if you have a variegated juvenile, that variegation pattern will remain with the adult plant. So you can have almost as many different adult types of ivy as you have juvenile. You just need the time and patience for the plants to mature to get the cuttings.

We don't know the exact formulation for this transmission, though age and light are two big factors. Ivy grown from seed will take 7-10 years to go from the juvenile to adult stage, if left to its own accord. The juvenile stage can be kept indefinitely by cutting the plant back and rooting these cuttings. The leaf shape is also different in these two forms. Most literature will state that the juvenile leaves are lobed, and the adult stage is unlobed. This is mostly true. The adult stage is mostly unlobed, but in the case of the bird foot ivies, I have noticed plants that have maintained some of the lobing from the juvenile form. Also in the curly ivies, the adults will keep some of the waviness of the juvenile form.

Adult ivies bloom late in the summer to early winter; the different species do tend to bloom at slightly different times. The flowers do not have pretty petals, but the flower bud is covered by a five-sepalled, yellow green calyx that opens to show the flower parts. Because this is one of the last flowers to bloom in the fall, it attracts many insects, from bees, wasps, to butterflies. In late winter to early spring the berries mature and are foraged by birds and small animals. The majority of ivy berries are bluish- black in color, with the exception of two: The Poet's ivy, *Hedera helix* f. *petarum* has dull orange to yellow berries, and in the species *Hedera nepalensis* the berries are a bright orange.

Since the berries of ivy have the seeds for the next generation, if you live in an area that is having problems with ivies escaping into the wild, you may want to cut back the flowers before they form into fruits. The seed from the ivy rarely produce anything exciting except a green leaved ivy similar to the species, although you will occasionally find something different, such as a yellow leaved clone, or some oddly shaped leaf form but this is a very rare occurrence.

*Hedera rhombea*  
'Crème de Menthe'  
Adult



### **Naming Adult ivies:**

There are two trains of thought to the naming of Adult ivies. The first thought is since this is just the continuation of the juvenile cultivar the name should remain the same, just add arborescent or adult to the name. The second thought is since this is a different form of the plant and could be thought of as a mutation it should be given a separate name, such as *Hedera rhombea* 'Crème de Menthe' for the adult form of *Hedera rhombea* 'Vareigata'. Commercial people tend to want to add a new name to the plant to give it more appeal, and the purest wants to keep the original name. According to the rules of nomenclature both of these ways are acceptable.

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# 2016 New Registration I

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 (HU), Department of Biology, Miami University, Oxford, OH 454045, and the Claude E. Phillips Herbarium (DOV), Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources, Delaware State University, Dover Delaware, 19901-2277. The letter(s) used in parentheses after the cultivar name refer(s) to the Pierot Classification system (Pierot 1974,1995) and *Knowing and Growing Ivy* (AIS 1997). The AIS number is an identification/verification number 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* ‘Road Toad’ (O)

By Russell A. Windle  
Registrar

### HISTORY

‘Road Toad’ (AIS 16-010) is an Oddity in the Pierot Classification system (Pierot 1974,1995). This ivy is being submitted for registration by Jonathan M. Lehrer, PhD, Valley Stream, New York.

Dr. Lehrer is the Department Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Urban Horticulture and Design Chair, College-wide Admissions & Academic Standards (AAS) Committee, Farmingdale State College.

Dr. Lehrer discovered this ivy in 2013 as a sport of *Hedera helix* ‘Golden Ingot’, in a cultivated stock plant at Farmingdale State College, Dept. Urban Horticulture & Design. Cuttings were taken, and watched for stability. Dr. Lehrer contacted me earlier this year, and sent samples of the plant.

### DESCRIPTION

The leaves are dark matt green, with raised yellow-green veins. Under rapid growth, the leaves can be cordate to three rounded lobes and a cordate base, and more flattened out, but most of the leaves are rounded, unlobed, and convex, with the margin of the leaf cupped upright. There is some self-branching, but light pruning will produce more branching. The stems are thickened with a stiff upright

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growth habit, possibly due to fasciation of the stem. Because of this stiff upright habit, this plant could be used to make an interesting bonsai plant.

### **SIMILAR CUTIVARS**

*Hedera helix* 'Knulch' and 'Kurios' have similar characteristics to *Hedera helix* 'Road Toad', each having the cupping to the leaves, though in 'Road Toad' the majority of the leaves are cup upright, in 'Knulch' and 'Kurios' they are mostly concave and cupped downward.

### **LITERATURE CITED**

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Sulgrove, Sabina Mueller, March 1983, New Registrations 1983: Knulch. *Ivy Journal* 9(1):47; photo p. 48

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# 2016 New Registration II

## *Hedera helix* ‘Gold Shells’ (V, O)

By Russell A. Windle  
Registrar

### HISTORY

‘Gold Shells’ (AIS 15-020) is a Variegated (V), Oddity (O) in the Pierot Classification System (Pierot 1974, 1995). [Golden Drake Mutant #1, Windle 2013] This ivy is being registered by Russell Windle, of Hedera etc., Lionville, PA 19353. This ivy was found as a mutation on a stock basket of *Hedera helix* ‘Golden Drake’, a single cutting was taken from this sport and grown. As the stock grew, more cuttings were taken to check the stability of the stock.

### DESCRIPTION

The leaves are unlobed to appearing almost circular, but occasionally with 3-5 vestigial lobes. Leaf margin upturned and the base of the leaf is pinched where it attaches to the petiole. The veins are raised and radiate out from the petiole attachment.

New growth is bright golden yellow, maturing to a medium golden green, with lighter raised veins. Makes long runner, and is somewhat self-branching. This mutation is probably from a fasciation in the petiole causing the constriction of the leaf.

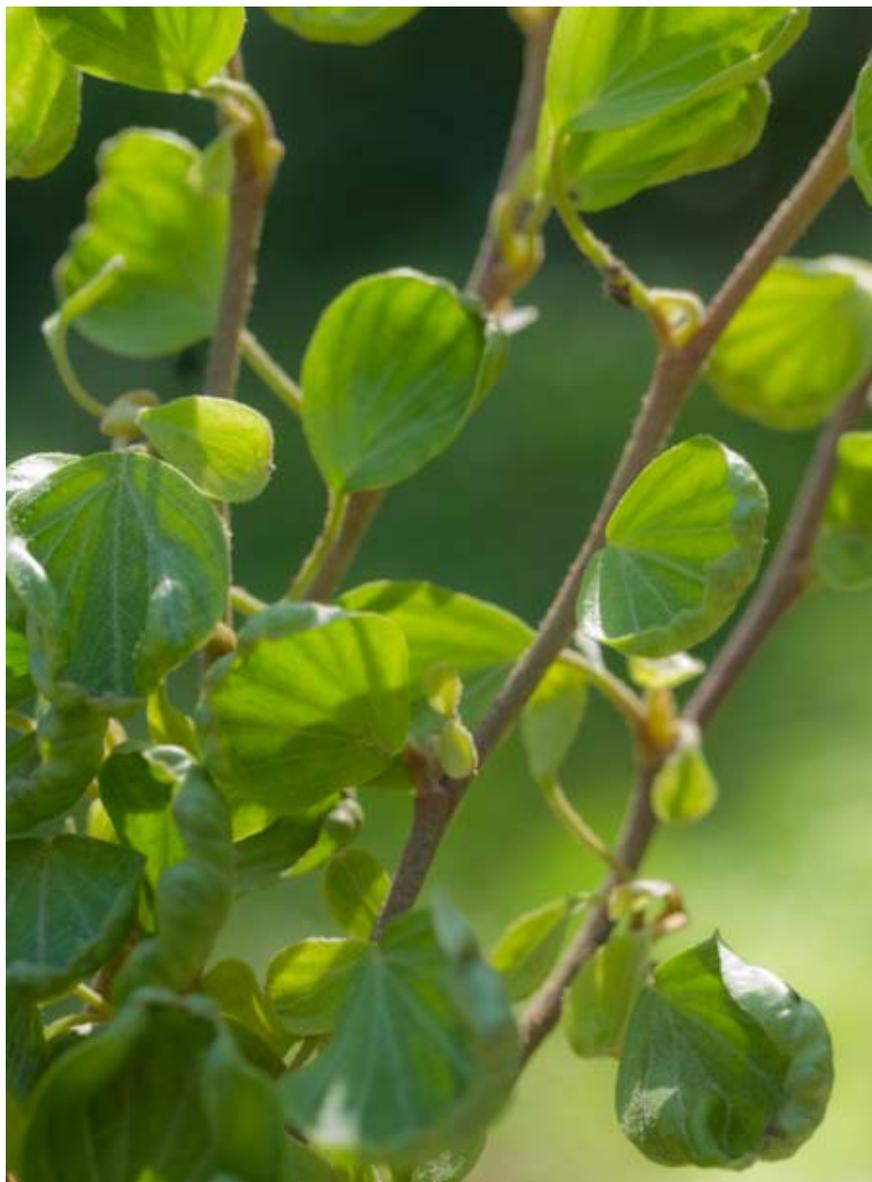
### SIMILAR CULTIVARS

*Hedera helix* ‘Cockle Shell’, and ‘Reef Shell’ would be the two closest ivies to ‘Gold Shells’. The main differences would be the coloration of the leaves in these three ivies, although the fasciation of the petiole is the probable cause for the leaf shape.

### LITERATURE CITED

American Ivy Society, Editors. 1997 “Pierot System of Classification” p.3. In: *Knowing and Growing Ivy*, Naples, Florida. 15pp.

Pierot, Suzanne Warner; 1974. (Classification) Chapter 1, and 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.

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# SUZANNE WARNER PIEROT

By Patricia Riley Hammer

I joined the American Ivy Society in 1984. I was a Senior Gardener at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, PA. I was asked to gather all the *Hedera* varieties we had accessioned and put together a pot collection that would possibly be used in the New York Flower Show to reproduce an Ivy display 50 years ago by the Garden Club of America. I began the search by visiting the Plant Records Department and learned that we had about 54 different ivies growing somewhere on the property of over 1000 acres. I found them in production, in collections, growing on walls, filling spaces between the Orchid Collection, outdoors, indoors and just about everywhere. It did not take long for me to realize that ivy was one of the most diverse plants at the Garden. We used it everywhere and it comes in all sized shapes and colors. Ivy has a wide variety of growth habits and sends out “sports” readily so that new ones were showing up regularly. It is also easy to grow and adapts to many locations and conditions. Before I knew it I was hooked and wanted to learn all I could about this magical plant.



*Hedera rhombea* 'Pierot'

## ***H. rhombea* 'Pierot'**

88-149 (M, I)

This small-leaved dainty ivy was found in Korea. The three-lobed leaves are broader than long and widely spaced on delicate but wiry black stems. It has a shallow, heart-shaped base with long petioles and takes on a maroonish hue in cool weather.

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Suzanne Warner Pierot in 1973 holding one of her first ivies. This photo was taken for the jacket cover of *The Ivy Book*.

I had so many questions. In the beginning, I was especially interested in learning the correct names. Many of our ivies had broken or lost labels and since there are about 600 different cultivars and I was a novice I needed help. I contacted Dr. Sabina Mueller Sulgrove. She had so much knowledge and was so willing to help me that within a few weeks I was completely devoted to ivy. Along with introducing me to the world of ivy she also introduced me to The American Ivy Society and all the wonderful people involved in the group. It was not long before we started a local chapter and started having monthly meetings at Longwood.

I soon learned that the American Ivy Society was started in October of 1973 by a "housewife" from Scarborough, New York. Everyone talked about this amazing garden club housewife, Suzanne Warner Pierot who was interested in ivy, wanted to learn more about the plant and set out to learn all she could about now my favorite plant. Besides being the founder of the American Ivy Society she is author of *The Ivy Book*, the results of her tenacious quest to learn all she could about the plant.

I learned that Suzanne started her quest by going to local nurseries and buying all the different named ivies she would find. She wanted beautiful ivies to grow over the rocks in her garden. She soon learned about the confusion in ivy names. In Suzanne's style, she set out to find the right names, strive to correct the names in the industry.

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Not long after the conception of The American Ivy Society, Suzanne was invited to come to Washington, D.C. to attend the celebration of the gift of George Washington's "River Farm" to the American Horticultural Society as its permanent headquarters.

Suzanne was just starting to write *The Ivy Book* and was not going to pass up a chance to learn from the experts and to promote her new passions, Ivy and the American Ivy Society, so off to River Farm. Everyone who was anyone in the horticultural world was attending this momentous event. The guest of honor was the First Lady, Pat Nixon. At the luncheon Suzanne was seated next to Dr. Russell Seibert, a world renowned plantsman and the Director of Longwood Gardens. Imagine that. The American Ivy Society and its birth has some small connection to Longwood Gardens.

Suzanne told Dr. Seibert of her plight and asked for his help. He took her by the hand and introduced her to all the Directors of the major gardens in the country asking them to help her and the American Ivy Society. She could not have picked a better luncheon companion.

While writing *The Ivy Book*, Suzanne became more and more aware of how hard it was to talk about all the different ivies. She now had a collection of about 60 different ivies. She wanted to write a book that would simplify the identification of ivy. She found they could be divided by leaf shape, size color ending to be eight categories. They were "Variegated", "Miniature", "Heart-shaped", "Fan", "Curly", "Bird's foot", "Ivy-ivy" and "Oddities." Hence that was the beginning of the Pierot Classification still used today by anyone talking about and describing ivies.

When I joined the American Ivy Society in 1984 Suzanne was not active due to illness in the family that took her from her gardening interests. Over the years I had heard so much about this energetic house wife who started the American Ivy Society and wrote the book on ivy. Ivy was my new passion and Suzanne quickly became one of my "horticultural" heros. I must say there were several really outstanding women that I met in my early years with AIS that became great role models and helped me to grow and learn that you can do whatever you want if you put your mind to it. Dr. Sabina Sulgrove, at the time Director of Research for AIS, took my hand and taught me so much about ivy. Other women members of AIS that definitely had influence on my career and my life were Mary Ellen Ross, owner of Mary's Gardens in Camden, Maine, Peggy Redding, Naples, FL, Pat Wellingham-Jones, Northern California, Elise Everhart, Baltimore, MD, and Daphne Pfaff, Naples, FL. All of these women gave me a step up along the way and stood behind me to keep me from falling down.

But Suzanne had become a legend and not long after getting entrenched in all things ivy and AIS I quickly learned there was so much more about Suzanne than just an "energetic housewife from Scarborough, NY." I learned that she started her career by lying about her age (she was only 17) and applying for the job of movie publicist for Howard Hughes. She got the job and it took her to England where she was part of the very exciting and fast moving movie world.

Later in our friendship I remember traveling with Suzanne and listening to all her fabulous tales about the places she traveled and the people she met.

Suzanne is also a very established author and has written other plant books including *What Can Grow In The Shade*, *Suzanne's Garden Secrets*, and *Easy Guide to Tropical Plants*. Her passions and talents go beyond the garden and she has written a cooking book called *Suzanne's Cooking Secrets*. One of my favorite stories from Suzanne is how she came to write *The Passionate Pelican*. She told me she was sitting on the beach in some exotic place watching the pelicans and like everything else she became curious about pelicans. Not curious like most of us, Suzanne-style-curious so she set out to learn all she could about Pelicans! After exhaustive research she wanted to share her knowledge so she wrote a book.

Suzanne is well traveled and never feared new challenges. I know she owned a plantation for several years in Costa Rica. While living there she devoted every minute to learning about the flora and fauna of the region. Not only did she become an expert on Pineapple and Heleconias but she also learned about monkeys and other exotic creatures of the area. Suzanne would never stand for not learning all she could about the things around her.

Over the years I have had the great privilege to travel with her and get to know Suzanne Warner Pierot. I would describe her as strong willed and determined. She does not believe in failure and she sets very high standards for herself and any project she is takes on. She believes in doing things and doing them right. She can be a very effective task master and knows how to keep the ship sailing in the right direction.

Suzanne with Tavo in one section of the working away.



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Suzanne is generous and willing to share her knowledge, her garden, her kitchen and her time. I will always be grateful for all the encouragement and coaching she gave me not only as a leader for the American Ivy Society but for my entire career. I always knew she was a #1 fan of my career and she always took every opportunity to promote my topiary work. I watched her do that for all of us in AIS and beyond.

Suzanne is funny and entertaining. I remember sitting in the Atlanta airport waiting for what may have been hours for delayed flights listening to fabulous stories of her travels and people she met but it seemed as though that time ended way too soon.

It is not hard to see how the American Ivy Society has been so successful over the past 30 years. Suzanne has now stepped down from President but her drive and dedication will never fade for those of us who are lucky enough to be among her friends and colleagues. Suzanne has definitely made a difference in the ivy world. I know she will remain an inspiration to me and all of us at AIS.

Suzanne spends her time devoted to her family and her garden located in Woodstock, New York, with over 100,000 plants. It has been selected many times to be included in the Garden Conservancy's Open Days Directory to Visiting America's Gardens.

### **AIS PAST PRESIDENTS**

- 1973 - 1975 - Suzanne Pierot
- 1975 - 1980 - Henri Shaepman
- 1981 - 1983 - Dr. Sabina Mueller Sulgrove
- 1983 - Darwin Ralston
- 1984 to 1987 - Frank Batson
- 1987 to 1989 - William V. Redding
- 1990 - Erich Meitzner
- 1990 - 2001 - Pat Hammer
- 2002 - 2014 - Suzanne Pierot
- 2015 - Present AIS Board of Diectors



Suzanne Pierot at her Open Days Garden Tour in July 2016.



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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
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".

## 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)

## On the Cover

### *H. nepalensis* 'Suzanne'

82-159 (BF)

This ivy was found in 1975 growing on oak trees and on moist rocks at an altitude of 8,000 feet in Nepal by Dr. John L. Creech during the USDA Plant Introduction Expedition. Its name honors Suzanne Pierot, founder of the American Ivy Society. *H. nepalensis* 'Suzanne' is a beautiful five-lobed ivy with the terminal lobe extremely elongated. The veins are diffused a grayish white color.



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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 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary **2013** Journal had individual photographs and descriptions of 24 ivies in the Heart-shaped (H) category.

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

**2015** featured the Variegated (V), 56 ivies photographed with descriptions in this category.

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