



# English ivy *Hedera helix*

## Overview

English ivy is an invasive perennial vine that is native to Europe and western Asia. It was introduced to the US in the 1700-1800s as an ornamental. It is now spread broadly throughout the west coast and the eastern and southern US.

## Appearance

A trailing and climbing evergreen vine that can grow up to 90 ft (27 m) tall.

Foliage is green (darker on top and paler underneath) with whitish veins, alternate, waxy, somewhat leathery; extremely variable leaf forms.

Flowers occur in late summer to early autumn; flowers are small, greenish-yellow and occur in globular starburst-type inflorescences at tips of flowering stems.

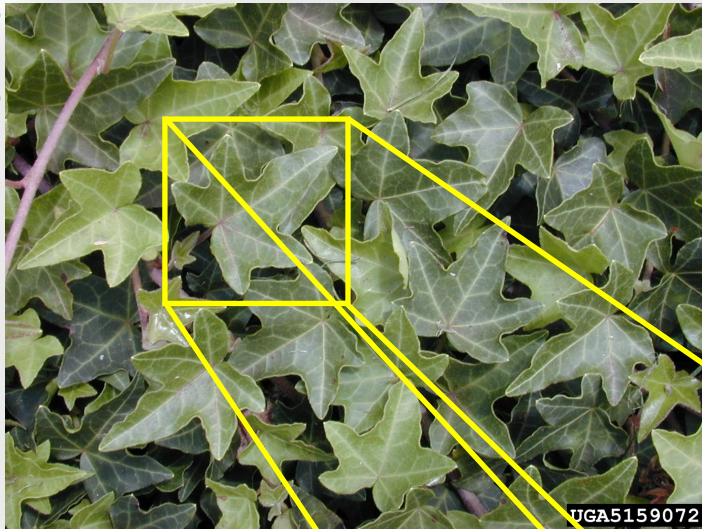
Fruit is black, 0.2-0.3 in (0.5-0.75 cm) wide, and berry-like with stone-like seeds that are dispersed by birds.



Karan A. Rawlins, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org

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## Foliage



Forest and Kim Starr, Starr Environmental, Bugwood.org

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## More Info

Attaches to bark of trees, brickwork, and other surfaces by aerial rootlets that exude a glue-like substance to aid in adherence.

Can harbor the disease bacterial leaf scorch.

## Flowers



Jan Samanek, Phytosanitary Administration, Bugwood.org

## Fruit



Robert Vidéki, Doronicum Kft., Bugwood.org

Leaves can be variable in shape, from unlobed to 3-5 lobed



F & K Starr, Starr Environmental, Bugwood.org



R Vidéki, Doronicum Kft., Bugwood.org