



HEDERA HELIX L.

Fam. Araliaceae

DESCRIPTION

It is an evergreen with a climbing, drooping and covering habit. The plant is formed by long and flexible stems supported by aerial roots that allow it to stick to any vertical structure.

DISTRIBUTION

Widespread throughout Europe.

FLOWERS

They consist of five light-green petals bundled in spherical umbels that are borne at the base of the leaf axils. A peculiarity of the ivy is its first flowering, happening at about 10 years of age. Ivy is a melliferous plant, frequently visited by bees. It is the last plant to provide large quantities of nectar and pollen before winter, as it blooms from September to October.

LEAVES

The leaves are three-lobed and vary in colour depending on the species. In autumn they are generally shiny, more deeply furrowed or lobed in some species than others, with an accentuated dimorphism depending on their age and functionality.

FRUITS

Small blackish spherical berries the size of a pea, poisonous to humans.

INTERESTING FACTS

In the language of flowers and plants, ivy symbolises innocence, but it can also be given as a sign of fidelity. Common ivy is highly valued in cosmetics for its toning and draining properties. One of the most popular cosmetic products made from this plant is ivy extract.

ROOTS

Robust and well-fasciculated root system.

