

English ivy

Hedera hibernica 'Hibernica'; *Hedera helix* 'Pittsburgh'; *Hedera helix* 'Baltica'; and
Hedera helix 'Star'
Araliaceae family

Key identifying traits

- ❑ Juvenile woody vines grow to 99 feet and produce adventitious roots that cling to vertical surfaces
- ❑ Adult branches extend away from juvenile vine support and do not have clinging roots
- ❑ Young leaves are deeply lobed and hairy but adult leaves are not--all leaves are alternate and leathery with long stems
- ❑ Small greenish-white flowers in umbrella like clusters in the fall--dark berry like fruit mature in the spring with 4 to 5 seeds

Biology and ecology

- An evergreen woody perennial
- Of more than 400 different English ivy cultivars these are the ones known to exhibit invasive potential in the Pacific Northwest and should be avoided as landscape plantings
- Popular as inexpensive, hardy ground cover
- Native to northern and subtropical Europe & Asia
- Introduced as an ornamental & birds move seeds

Control

Prevention - Learn to identify plants; don't transplant these pretty plants to your home; research nursery and catalogue specimens before buying

Biological - None known at this time

Cultural - Healthy native plant communities help reduce likelihood of establishment but don't stop it

Mechanical - Cutting, burning and pulling can be effective if thorough and persistent

Chemical - Several effective at label rates especially on regrowth following cutting--waxy cuticle necessitates use of appropriate surfactants- tolerant of commonly used pre-emergent herbicides

Where found - Occasionally found as an ornamental planting in Stevens County, but not yet as aggressive or problematic as on the west side of the state.



hibernica 'Hibernica'



helix 'Pittsburg'



helix 'Baltica'



helix 'Star'



helix-unknown var. (TNC photo)