



The ivy, a familiar yet strange plant!

The well-known ivy is a creeping plant of our gardens. Its long and flexible branches climb up tree trunks or spread on walls and fences. Don't worry, it isn't a threat because the ivy doesn't constrict the branches but hangs up with its aerial rootlets.

The ivy grows two types of dark green leaves : the juvenile palmately five-lobed ones at first. And, when the plant arrives at the top of the support, the triangular ones. When the ivy is in flower, it is very attractive for bees and other insects. The birds are also very fond of the purple-black fruits in winter. (check the link)



If you remove some stems at the top and make cuttings, the new plants won't creep or climb any more. They'll turn into erect and evergreen shrubs much appreciated for hedges - and topiary for example. (check the link)

The name *Hedera* (in greek) means "saisir " and *helix* "spirale" as... the latin name of the snail !