

# APPRECIATING IVY & ITS INSECTS

Ivy is a common British plant that flowers in the autumn. Its flowers are visited by many insects. Spend 15 minutes counting insects on a patch of ivy flowers in a sunny position on a warm day from 15 September to 31 October. Use the chart below to identify them into categories. Submit your results to [www.sussex.ac.uk/lasi](http://www.sussex.ac.uk/lasi). Ivy also helps wildlife by producing berries, as a food plant for some moth larvae, and nest site for birds.

Ivy is found in both town and country. It climbs walls and trees. The flowers are not colourful. They are only made on mature ivy, which has oval leaves and woody stems, not on young plants with their trademark 5-pointed leaves.

