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Parthenocissus tricuspidata

[Synonyms : *Ampelopsis hoggii*, *Ampelopsis tricuspidata*, *Ampelopsis veitchii*, *Cissus thunbergii*, *Parthenocissus thunbergii*, *Psedera thunbergii*, *Psedera tricuspidata*, *Quinaria tricuspidata*, *Vitis inconstans*, *Vitis taquetii*]

BOSTON IVY is a deciduous climbing vine. Native from central China to Japan it has leaves that turn crimson and scarlet in Autumn.

It is also known as *Dreilappige Jungfernrebe* (German), *Dreispitziige Jungfernrebe* (Cerman), Japanese creeper, Japanese ivy, *Kletter-Wein* (German), *Loubinec trojhrotý* (Czech), *Loubinec trojlaločný* (Czech), *Pavinič trojlaločný* (Slovak), *Přísavník trojcípý* (Czech), *Rådhusvin* (Swedish), Virginia creeper, and *Wilder Wein* (German).

Tricuspidata is made up of Latin *tri-* (three) and *cuspidis* (point, spike) components meaning ‘with three short sharp stiff points’ with reference to the leaves.

John Gould Veitch, the great grandson of the founder of the English nurseries, Veitch and Sons, introduced Boston ivy to Britain (from Japan) in 1862. Its immediate success as an ornamental plant there surpassed that already achieved by its close North American relative (Virginia creeper, *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*) which had crossed the Atlantic earlier on.