

MARSH SHIELD-FERN  
*Dryopteris thelypteris*  
(*Thelypteris palustris*)

Located in marshes, swamps, sterile meadows, bogs and wet woods throughout the Division. Also known as Wood-, Swamp-, Quill-, Meadow-, or Snuffbox-Fern.

A perennial by slender, creeping, forked, blackish rootstock. The stalks are tufted when young, becoming smooth, brittle; 10 to 70 cm high. The fronds are lance-shaped to oblong, minutely hairy on both surfaces; having two different forms: sterile fronds 10 to 60 cm long, 4 to 20 cm wide, very thin, with 17 to 40 narrowly lance-shaped, pointed branches (pinnae), median pinnae with 8 to 25 pairs of oblong to egg-shaped, blunt, slightly jointed segments; upper pinnae abruptly shorter; fertile fronds mostly taller, thicker and firmer, the segments narrower and with rolled-edges, the pinnae often curved or contorted.





Notes: