

Blechnum serrulatum
Swamp fern; toothed midsorus fern; saw fern

Family: ***Blechnaceae***



The fronds are pinnate

Swamp Fern

Synonym: None Found

Origin: Native to Florida, the Caribbean, Central and South America

U.S.D.A. zone: 8a—12b

Growth Rate: Fast

Leaf Persistence: Evergreen

Messiness: N/A

Salt Tolerance: Low

Drought Tolerance: Low

Nutritional Requirements: Likes acidic soils

Potential Pests: None

Typical Dimensions: 36"-48" high

Propagation: Dividing rhizomes, spores

This is one of the most common ferns found throughout much of Florida. It makes an excellent groundcover in large moist sites at the edges of ponds, swamps, and marshes. It is an upright fern capable of growing to 4 feet in height. The fronds are pinnate with a single, apical leaflet. The leaflets are crinkled with serrated edges. The new growth is coppery pink in color becoming dark green. The swamp fern grows best in moist, shady sites with plenty of compost. In full sun it requires moist to wet conditions. The fronds grow shorter and more leathery in the sun and taller and more pliable in shade but they grow readily in either condition. The swamp fern easily spreads into areas that support its growth. Periodically remove old fronds to maintain best appearance.



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The swamp fern has a single, apical leaflet



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The leaflets are crinkled



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The leaflet edges are finely serrated



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The swamp fern is capable of growing up to 4 feet tall



The fronds grow taller and more pliable in shade



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Other views of the fern



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