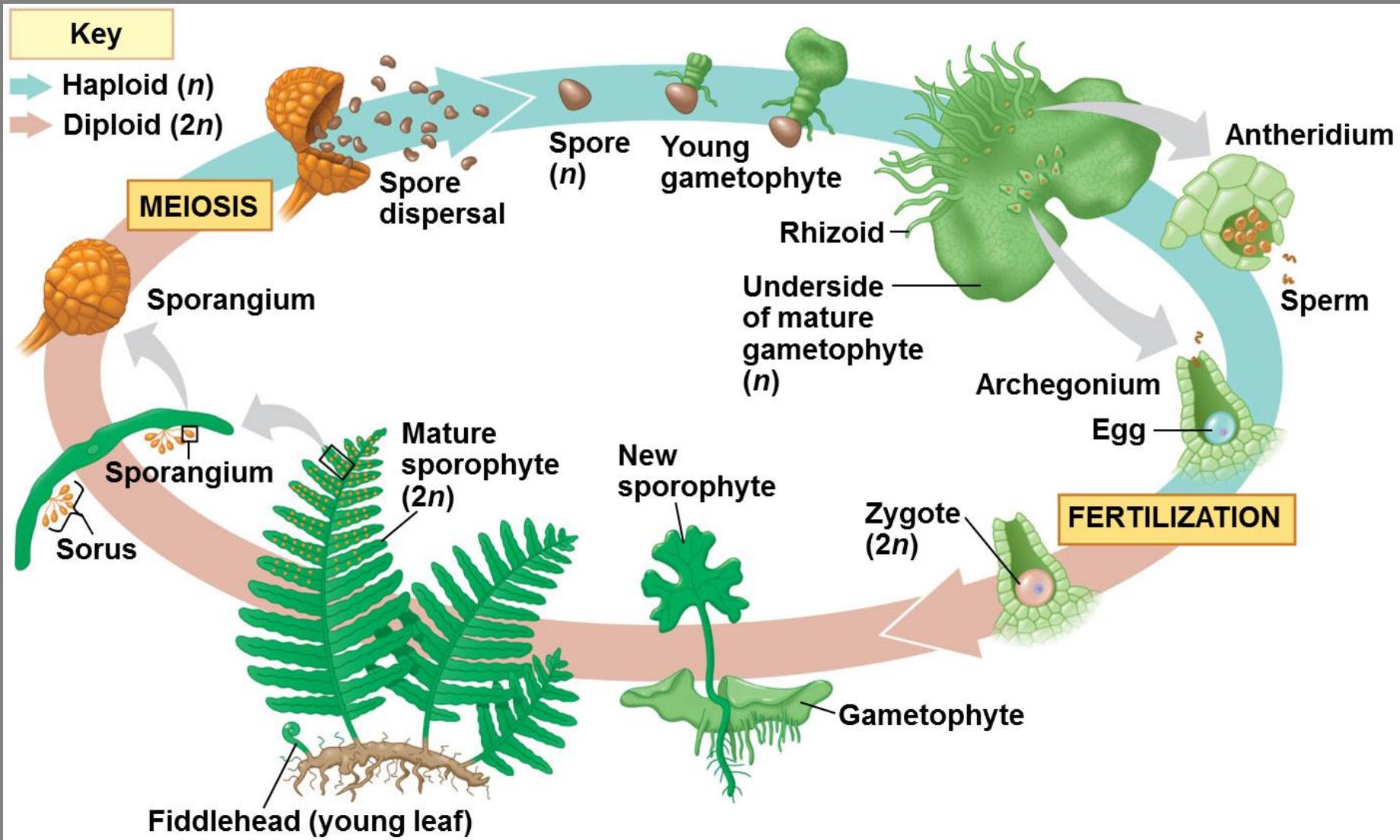


# Ferns and Horticulture

Dr. Robbin Moran  
The New York Botanical Garden



# Ferns Lead a Double Life



# Sori | Sporangia



Hay-scented fern, *Dennstaedtia punctilobula*

# Types of Sori (sing., Sorus)

## shape and position



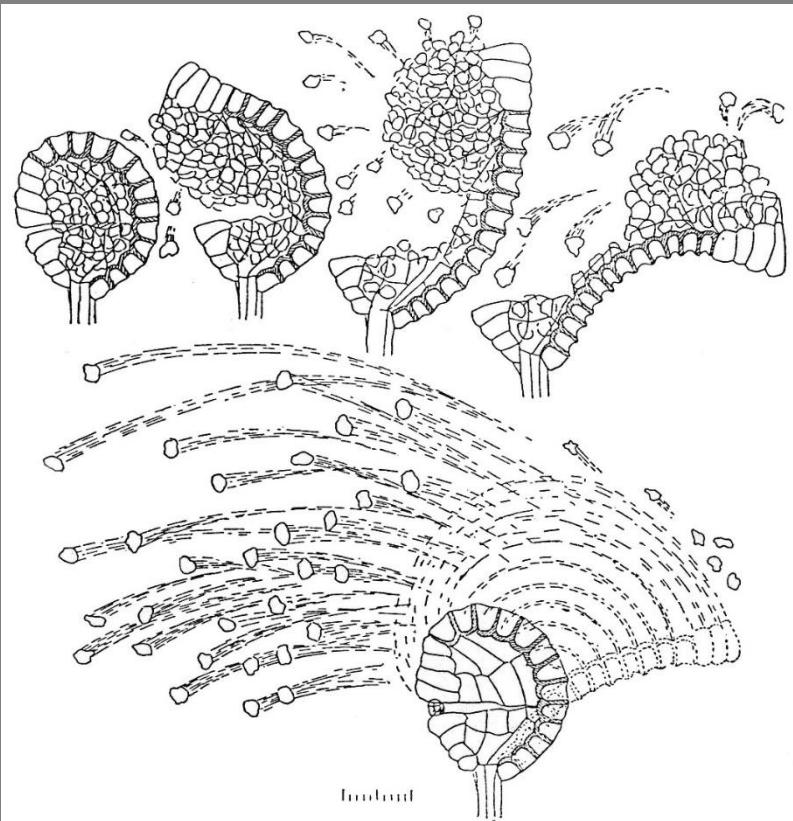
anastomosing  
*Hemionitis*

linear  
*Blechnaceae*

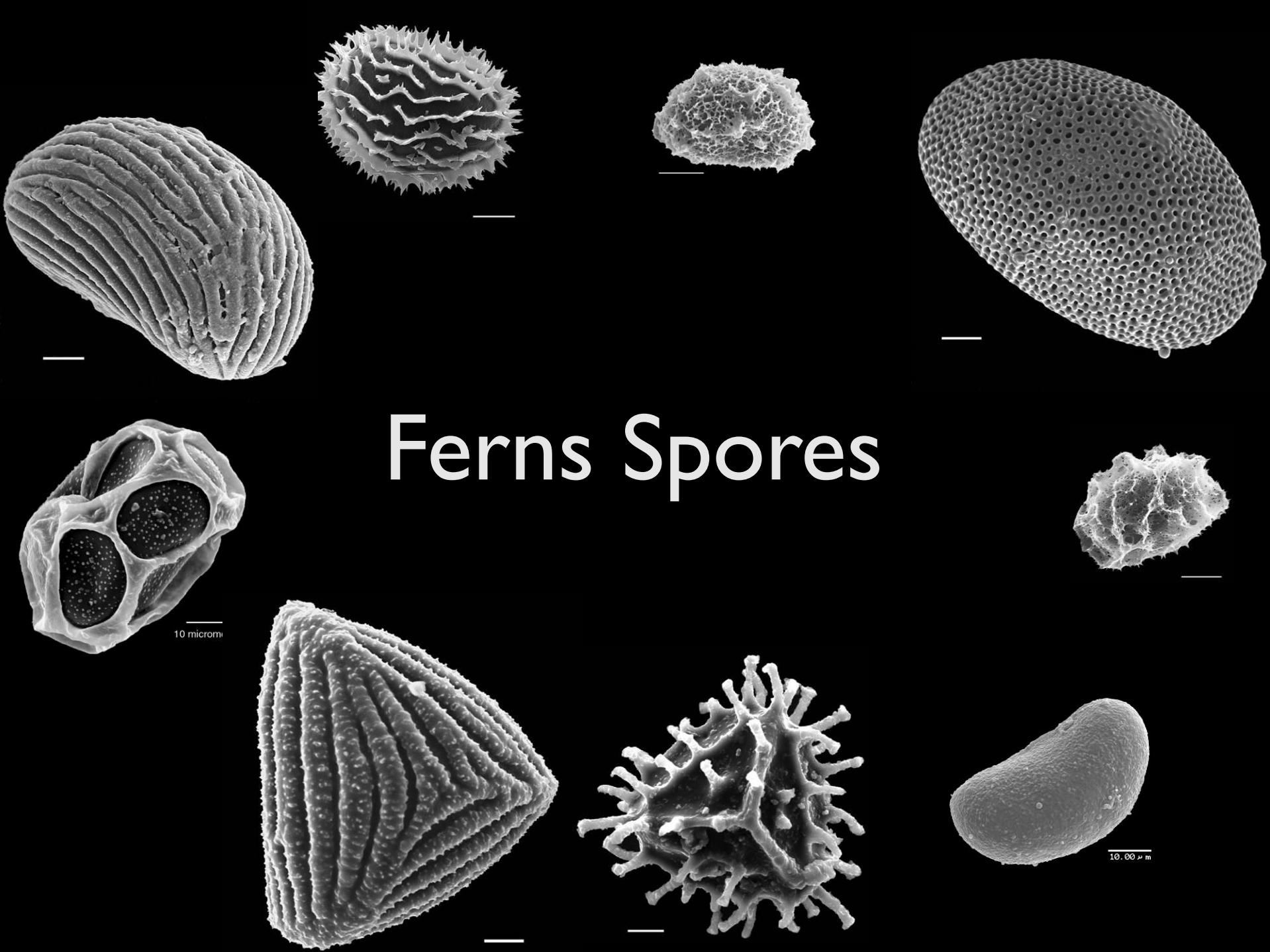
round  
*Polypodiaceae*

acrostichoid  
*Elaphoglossum*

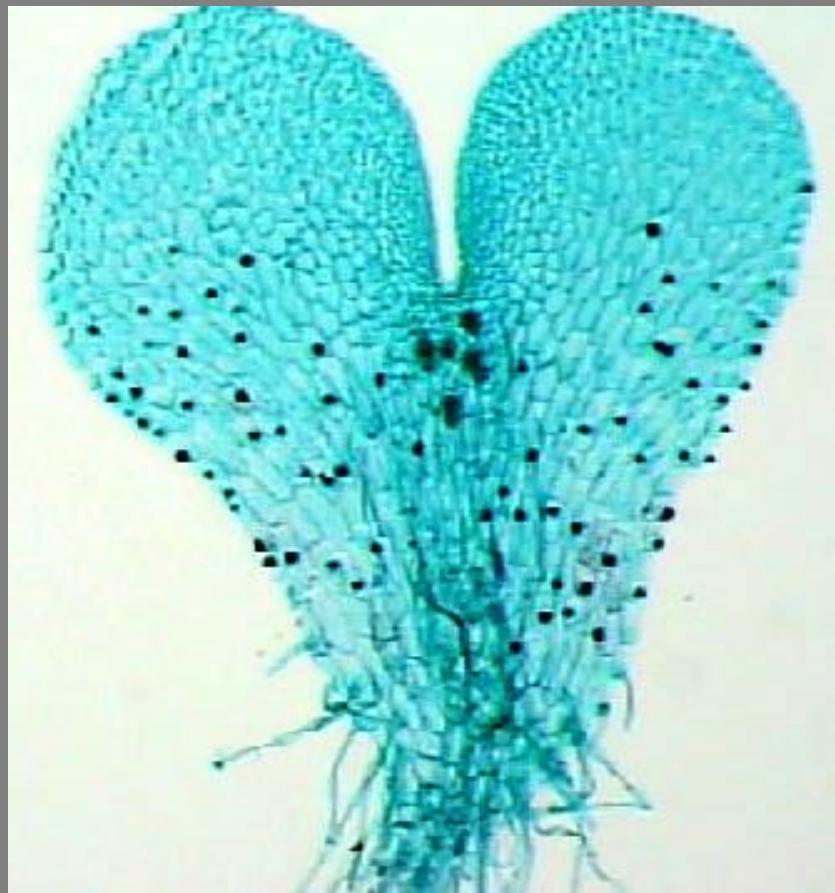
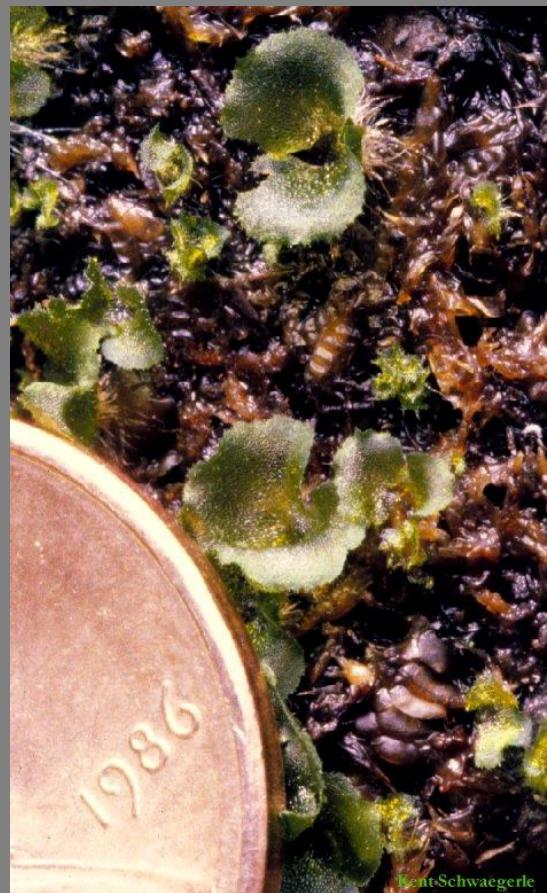
# Spore Shooting



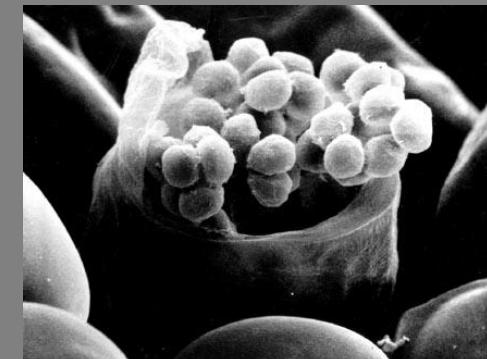
# Ferns Spores



# Fern Gametophyte (Prothallus)



archegonia



antheridium

# Baby Photo!



# Percentage of Ferns in Tropical Floras

Continents	7–10%
Oceanic Islands	20–40%



# Fern Propagation by Spores

Peat-pellet Method



# Fern Propagation by Spores

## Peat-pellet Method



# Fern Propagation by Spores

## Peat-pellet Method



# Ostrich Fern | Matteuccia struthiopteris



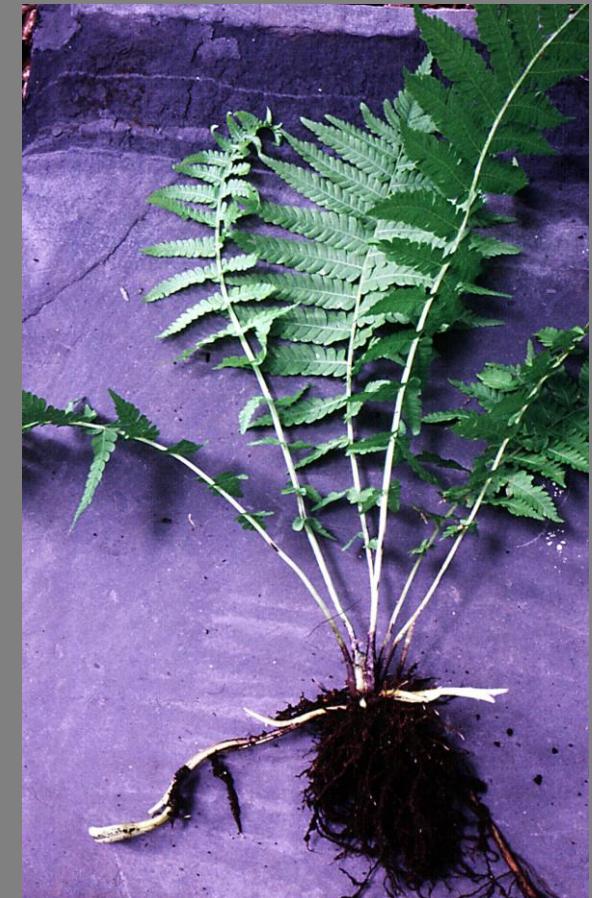
# Ostrich Fern | Matteuccia struthiopteris

Fertile leaves



# Ostrich Fern | *Matteuccia struthiopteris*

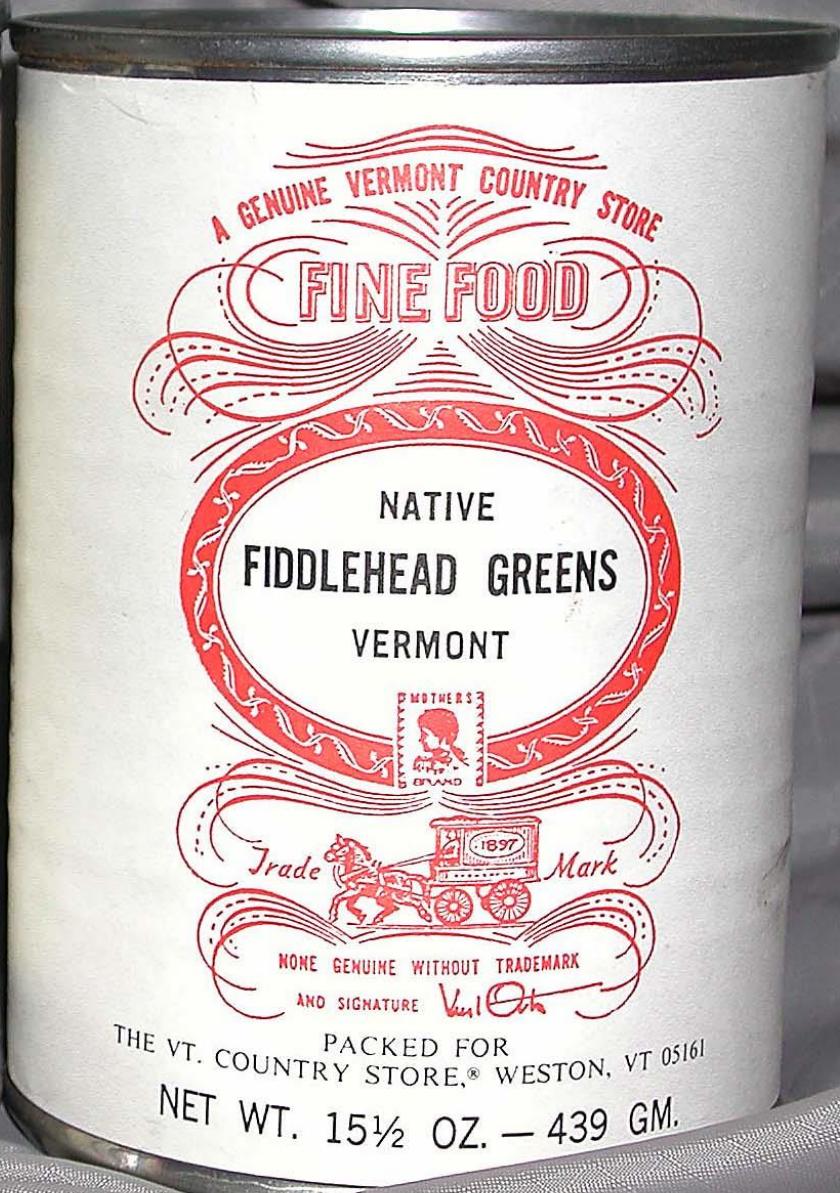
## Stolons



# Ostrich Fern | *Matteuccia struthiopteris*

Edible Fiddleheads





# Ostrich Fern | Matteuccia struthiopteris

Largest export crop of New Brunswick



# Sensitive Fern | *Onoclea sensibilis*



# Bracken fern | Pteridium aquilinum



# Bracken fern | Edible Fiddleheads

Bracken Fern



Ostrich Fern



# Bracken fern

## The Lucretia Borgia of the Fern World



1. Carcinogens
2. Thiaminase
3. Tanins
4. Cyanogenic
5. Ecdysones



Lucretia Borgia (1480–1519)

# Lady fern | *Athyrium filix-femina*



# Lady fern | Cultivars



Crested form



Red-petioled form  
Cv. 'Lady in red'

# Lady Fern | Cultivars

Tatting fern



# Lady Fern | cultivars

Cv. 'Victoriae'



# Other Lady Ferns

Hybrid



Japanese Painted Fern  
*Athyrium nipponicum* 'Pictum'



Ghost Fern  
= Lady fern X Painted fern

# Maidenhair fern | Adiantum pedatum



# Mosquito fern | Azolla

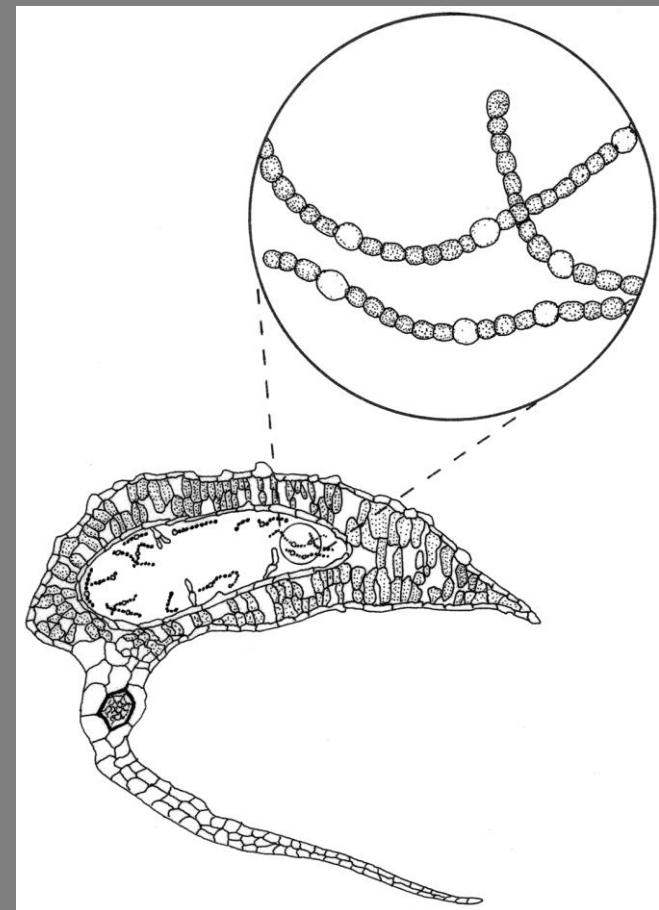
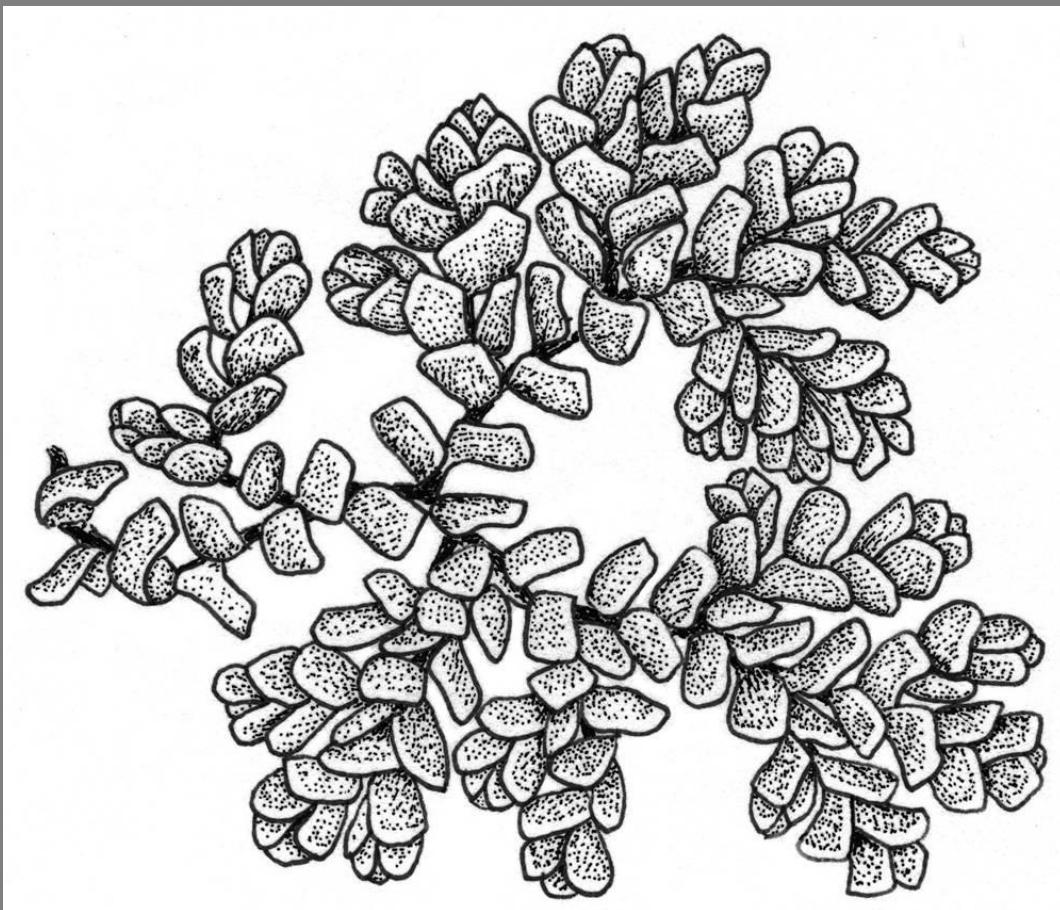
Leaves small  
harbor N-fixing cyanobacteria



Richard Old  
[www.xidservices.com](http://www.xidservices.com)

# Mosquito fern | Azolla

Cyanobacterium (*Anabaena azollae*)



# Azolla | Rice Cultivation



# Azolla | feed supplement

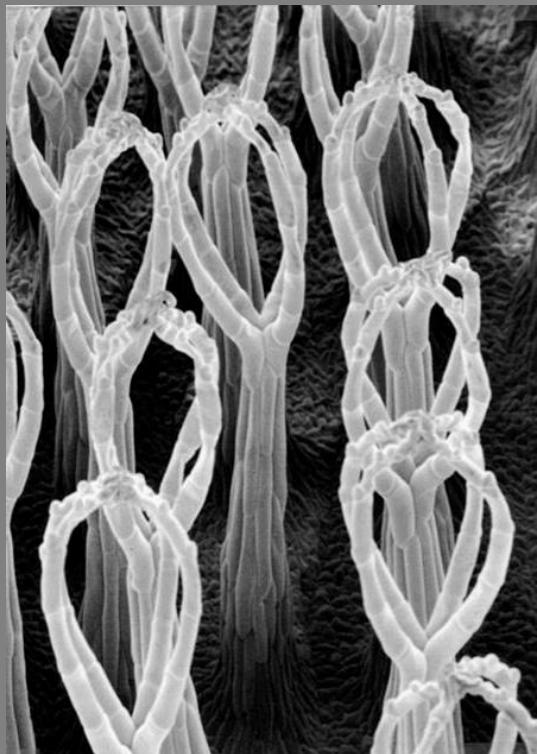


# Azolla | Fall Colors

Turns red in fall or under nutrient stress



# Water Spangles | *Salvinia molesta*



# Water Spangles | *Salvinia molesta*

Infestation, eastern Texas





# The Salvinia weevil

*Crytobogous salvinii*

# Favorite adaptation | Iridescence



*Elaphoglossum hoffmannii*



*Selaginella willdenovii*



*Elaphoglossum herminieri*



*Microsorum thailanicum*

# Favorite Fern | Potato Fern

Microgramma (Polypodiaceae)



*M. brunei*, Costa Rica



*M. bifrons*, Ecuador

# Favorite Fern | Potato Fern



Entrance hole



Ouch!



Inner roots



# Mmmm . . .

