

Rare Plants of Louisiana



Diplazium lonchophyllum - lance-leaved glade fern Wood Fern Family (Dryopteridaceae)

Rarity Rank: S1/G3G5

	1	2	3	4	5
State	Yellow				
Global			Yellow	Yellow	Yellow
	imperiled		rare		secure

Range: LA; also Mexico, Central America, and northern South America

Recognition:

- Relatively large attractive fern with glossy fronds
- Sori (clusters of sporangia) are on lateral veins and can be up to 6 mm in length
- Lacks scales on midrib of the fronds and pinnae (frond segments); *Dryopteris ludoviciana*, also a rare fern, has such scales
- Can further be separated from *Dryopteris* by having 1 or 2 vascular bundles in the petiole (seen in cross-section) rather than 3 to 7 bundles
- Teeth on the margins of the pinnae grow closer together towards the tip of each lobe and are more numerous on the upper edges of the lobes



Light Requirement: Shade

Wetland Indicator Status:

Does not occur in wetlands anywhere in range

Habitat:

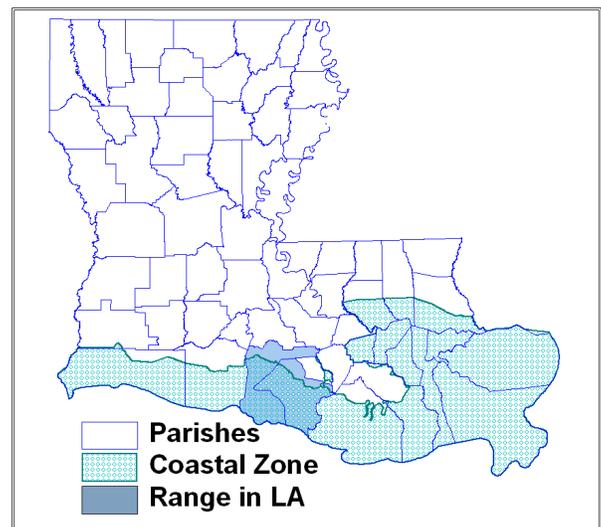
Rich wooded ravines in salt dome hardwood forests on Weeks and Cote Blanche Islands.

Threats:

- Invasive plant species including *Deparia petersenii* (Japanese twin-sorus fern)
- Rooting by feral hogs
- Unnatural rates of erosion

Beneficial Management Practices:

- Kill more wild hogs
- Protect remaining salt dome hardwood forest habitat



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LA River Basins: Vermilion-Teche



Diplazium lonchophyllum growing beside a stream bed in a ravine on Weeks Island, Iberia Parish.

References:

- NatureServe. 2007. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 6.2. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>.
- Thieret, J. W. 1980. Louisiana ferns and fern allies. Lafayette Natural History Museum, Lafayette, LA. 123 pp.