

Rare Plants of Louisiana



Diplazium pycnocarpon - glade fern Wood Fern Family (Dryopteridaceae)

Rarity Rank: S2/G5

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

Range: Eastern United States and extending north into Quebec

Recognition:

- Fronds to 1 m tall, once-pinnately compound, the pinnae (divisions of the frond) unlobed
- Sori (clusters of sporangia on the undersides of the pinnae) are elongate, straight or slightly curved.
- Fronds dimorphic, fertile fronds (bearing sori) are a little longer, more erect, and with narrower pinnae than sterile fronds



Photo by Emmet J. Judziewicz
University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point

Light Requirement: Shade

Wetland Indicator Status: FAC – similar likelihood of occurring in both wetlands and non-wetlands

Habitat:

Rich wooded ravines. The coastal zone report is historical from Avery Island. *D. pycnocarpon* may perhaps be present in ravines on other salt domes.

Threats:

- Unnatural rates of erosion
- Invasive exotic species (plants and feral hogs)

Beneficial Management Practices:

- Protect southern mesophytic and salt dome hardwood forests
- If harvesting timber, adhere to Best Management Practices (BMPs) relative to erosion prevention
- Control of exotic plants and animals
- Conduct additional field surveys on Weeks and Cote Blanche Islands



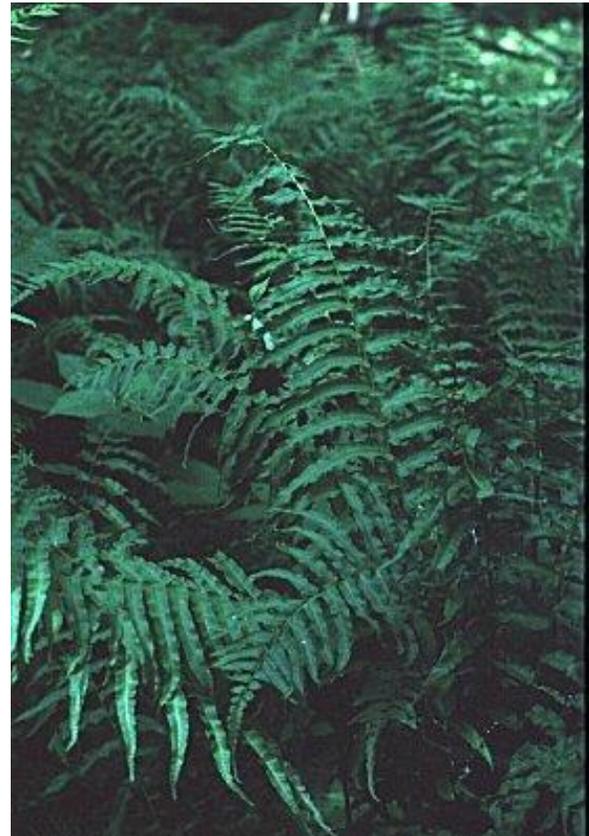
LA River Basins: Mississippi, Atchafalaya, Vermilion-Teche

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Above: Photo by Elizabeth Parnis
University of Wisconsin- Stevens Point

Right: Photo by Robert W. Freckmann University of
Wisconsin- Stevens Point



References:

- NatureServe. 2007. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 6.2. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>.
- Taylor, W. C. 1984. Arkansas ferns and fern allies. Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, WI. 262 pp.
- Thieret, J. W. 1980. Louisiana ferns and fern allies. Lafayette Natural History Museum, Lafayette, LA. 123 pp.