

THELYPTERIDACEAE – MARSH FERN FAMILY

Plant: fern, terrestrial (rarely epiphytic)

Root:

Stem and Leaves: stems erect to creeping, usually with 2 vascular bundles, crescent-shaped; leaves either monomorphic (one leaf type) or slightly dimorphic (blade differences minor), scales mostly absent, blade pinnate to pinnate-pinnatifid (rarely by-pinnate or more divided)

Fruit (Sori): sori on veins and of various shapes but usually not elongate, an indusium often with hairs, spores monolete, bilateral

Other: Division Pteridophyta (Ferns)

Genera: 30+ genera

* Fern terminology is discussed in **PLANT TERMS**, a separate tab on the HOME page.

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Eastern Marsh Fern; *Thelypteris palustris* Schott var. *pubescens* (G. Lawson) Fernald

Eastern Marsh Fern - P1

Thelypteris palustris Schott var. *pubescens*
(G. Lawson) Fernald



Thelypteridaceae (Marsh Fern Family)

Near Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, Stoddard County, Missouri

Notes: fern, deciduous; leaves somewhat dimorphic (pinnae of fertile leaves somewhat narrower, more erect), up to 1m, lanceolate with proximal pinnae a little shorter, mostly pinnate-pinnatifid, terminal pinnae just pinnatifid, pinnatifid segments of pinnae entire, veins usually forked, hairs on costae and often on veins; petiole smooth and straw colored; spore cases round, medial; indusia peltate to reniform (sometimes leaf blade strongly revolute); costae slightly hairy and scaly with a front groove; seeds and marshy areas; summer to fall

[V Max Brown, 2017]



Eastern Marsh Fern – P2

Thelypteris palustris Schott var. *pubescens* (G. Lawson) Fernald

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Sporangia

Indusia

Costae (midrib),
veins, and sori
with hairs

