

**FERNS CHECKLIST FOR BEDS, CAMBS, HUNTS, NORTHANTS and PETERBOROUGH**

Scientific name	English Name	Habitats	Beds	Cambs	Hunts	Northants & Pboro
<i>Adiantum capillus-veneris</i>	Maidenhair Fern	walls and rocks		VR introd./naturalised		VR introd./naturalised
<i>Asplenium [Phyllitis] scolopendrium</i>	Hart's-tongue	walls and rocks, woodlands	O	O	O	F
<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>	Black Spleenwort	walls etc.	O	O	R	O
<i>Asplenium ceterach [Ceterach officinarum]</i>	Rustyback	walls	R	R	VR	U
<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>	Wall-rue	walls etc.	O	O	U	F
<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>	Maidenhair Spleenwort	walls etc.	U	O	R	O
<i>Athyrium filix-femina</i>	Lady-fern	mainly broadleaf woods	O	O	R	O
<i>Azolla filiculoides</i>	Water Fern	ponds and ditches	O	O	U	U
<i>Blechnum spicant</i>	Hard-fern	heathland, acid woodland	VR	E 1831	E?	VR
<i>Botrychium lunaria</i>	Moonwort	unimproved grassland	E 1911	E 1860	E 1890	E? 1954
<i>Cyrtomium falcatum</i>	House Holly-fern	walls	VR			VR
<i>Cystopteris fragilis</i>	Brittle Bladder-fern	rocks and walls	E 1980s	E 1977		VR
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i> agg.	Scaly Male-fern	mainly broadleaf woods	U	U	R	O
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i> ssp. <i>affinis</i>	Golden-scaled Male-fern	mainly broadleaf woods	R	VR	?	U
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i> ssp. <i>cambrensis</i>	Narrow Male-fern	mainly broadleaf woods	VR introd.			R
<i>Dryopteris borrieri</i>	Borrer's Male-fern	mainly broadleaf woods	U	VR	R	U
<i>Dryopteris affinis</i> x <i>filix-mas</i> (D. x <i>complexa</i> agg.)		mainly broadleaf woods		VR		
<i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i>	Narrow Buckler-fern	mainly wet woods and fens	R	R	R	O
<i>Dryopteris carthusiana</i> x <i>dilatata</i> (D. x <i>deweveri</i> )		wet woods which are drying out	VR			
<i>Dryopteris cristata</i>	Crested Buckler-fern	fens			E 1850	E 1916
<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>	Broad Buckler-fern	mainly broadleaf woods	F	O	U	F
<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i>	Male-fern	mainly broadleaf woods	C	F	C	C
<i>Equisetum arvense</i>	Field Horsetail	very common in many habitats	C	C	C	C
<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i>	Water Horsetail	in water	O	O	U	O
<i>Equisetum fluviatile</i> x <i>arvense</i> (E. x <i>litorale</i> )	Shore Horsetail	damp or wet places				VR
<i>Equisetum hyemale</i>	Rough Horsetail	shady river banks etc	E 1795			
<i>Equisetum palustre</i>	Marsh Horsetail	damp or wet places	O	O	O	F
<i>Equisetum sylvaticum</i>	Wood Horsetail	mainly acid woods	E 1798	E 1860		R
<i>Equisetum telmateia</i>	Great Horsetail	various, mainly wetland habitats	O	U	U	O
<i>Gymnocarpium dryopteris</i>	Oak Fern	damp woods, fens, walls etc	E 1974		VR	E? 1973
<i>Gymnocarpium robertianum</i>	Limestone Fern	limestone scree, walls etc	E 1954	VR introd./naturalised		E 1896
<i>Lycopodiella inundata</i>	Marsh Clubmoss	peaty wetlands	E 1950	E 1860	E 1850	
<i>Lycopodium clavatum</i>	Stag's-horn Clubmoss	usually peaty wetlands	E 1798	E 1860		E 1885
<i>Ophioglossum vulgatum</i>	Adder's-tongue	old meadows, woodland rides	O	U	O	O

## FERNS CHECKLIST FOR BEDS, CAMBS, HUNTS, NORTHANTS and PETERBOROUGH

Scientific name	English Name	Habitats	Beds	Cambs	Hunts	Northants & Pboro
<i>Oreopteris limbosperma</i>	Lemon-scented Fern	stream sides, mainly upland	E 1946	E 1820	E 1850	VR
<i>Osmunda regalis</i>	Royal Fern	peat and wet heaths	VR	E 1760	VR	E 1822
<i>Pilularia globulifera</i>	Pillwort	marshes			E 1864	E 1879
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i> agg.	Polypody	walls, old trees etc.	U	O		
<i>Polypodium interjectum</i>	Intermediate Polypody	walls, old trees etc.	R	O	VR	U
<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>	Polypody	walls, old trees etc.	?	U	R	O
<i>Polystichum aculeatum</i>	Hard Shield-fern	mainly broadleaf woods	R	E 1820 (exc. for introd./naturalised)	E	U
<i>Polystichum aculeatum</i> x <i>setiferum</i> ( <i>P. x bicknellii</i> )		woodland	VR			
<i>Polystichum lonchitis</i>	Holly-fern	rocks and walls, mainly upland				E 1970s
<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>	Soft Shield-fern	mainly broadleaf woods, also walls and stream sides	U	R	VR	U
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken	heaths, woods and grasslands on neutral-acid soil	F	O	U	F
<i>Pteris cretica</i>	<i>Ribbon Fern</i>	walls, gardens	VR or E	VR		
<i>Pteris multifida</i>		walls		VR		
<i>Pteris nipponica</i>		walls		VR		
<i>Thelypteris palustris</i>	Marsh Fern	fens	E 1875	VR	E 1850	E 1930

C - common	U - uncommon
F - frequent	R - rare
O - occasional	VR - very rare
	E - extinct (with date, usually date of publication of last record)
	introd. - introduction/escape

ver. 1.32 July 2017  
 © B.Eversham/Wildlife Trust BCN 2017  
 Comments welcome, to  
[brian.eversham@wildlifebcn.org](mailto:brian.eversham@wildlifebcn.org) please

### Notes

- The list omits species absent from all four recording areas
- Species in italics are not native to the country, see *New Flora of the British Isles*, 3rd ed. (Stace, C.A. 2010, CUP)
- Nomenclature follows *New Flora of the British Isles*, 3rd ed. (Stace, C.A. 2010, CUP). Older names in square brackets.
- A number of species are grown in gardens, from which spores may spread to colonise more semi-natural habitats or walls, eg. *Adiantum*, *Cystopteris*, *Gymnocarpium* spp. *Polystichum*, etc
- Records in some vice-counties have not always discriminated subspecies so distributions for the aggregate are given



**Bedfordshire  
 Cambridgeshire  
 Northamptonshire**