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# The Ferns Of Florida: A Reference And Field Guide (Reference And Field Guides)



## Synopsis

This is the first field guide in 25 years to treat Florida's amazing variety of ferns. Color plates feature more than 200 images, some of which include rare species never before illustrated in color. Includes notes on each species' growth form and habit, as well as general remarks about its botanical and common names, unique characteristics, garden use, and history in Florida. All professional or amateur botanists, plant lovers, and gardeners will want this important book in their libraries.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Enhanced with more than two hundred color photographs, Gil Nelson's *The Ferns Of Florida: A Reference And Field Guide* showcases some 163 kinds of ferns ranging from norther species whose southern range extends into the uplands of Florida's norther tier, to tropical ferns spilling over Florida's southern tip. The text is thoroughly "reader friendly" with detailed descriptions and helpful identification tips, along with an invaluable selection of field observation based botanical keys for identifying plants in their wild ecosystems. There are extensive notes on each species growth form, as well as the botanical names, unique characteristics, garden use, and history. An essential and core title for any Floridian based gardener, as well as the professional and academic horticulturalist or botanist, *The Ferns Of Florida* also includes a glossary, a section on the fern life cycle and structure, a history of fern study in Florida, a discussion of some of the state's best natural ferneries, and an extensive bibliography for further study.

Great field guide/reference for any naturalist or serious gardener. This book is primarily organized for use as a field guide, but has great value for landscaping/gardening as well. Ferns are notoriously difficult to identify in the field....unless you have this book! Mr Nelson's use of botanical keys is what makes it possible to confidently identify a particular specimen. The initial key toward the beginning of the book will direct you to a particular family or genus. At the family level you'll find another key that will help you to determine the genera, and from there the species descriptions, pictures, drawings, etc will help you to identify the particular species in question. (Some genera include very few species, in these cases, no keys are given). Even for those not accustomed to using botanical keys, mastering the use of these keys comes fairly easily with a little help from the fairly brief glossary. The color plates are of high quality and many of the pictures clearly show the arrangement of sori on the fertile fronds. In addition to keys and species descriptions, this book contains a history of fern study in Florida, information about fern conservation, including detailed information in table form about the federal and state status of each species, information about fern gardening, information about fern classification, nomenclature, morphology, life cycle of ferns, and a glossary of terms. I highly recommend this book for any naturalist and/or fern lover, or anyone who needs to be able to identify ferns.

This book is for anyone who has an interest in ferns and wishes to be able to distinguish one from the other. Great color pictures so that you can compare the subtle differences and make these ferns you own. Ferns are wonderful plants that require little care and are almost impossible to kill even with kindness. Enjoy.

Fantastic guide to ferns. The only thing I would like is some better (close up) photos. There is a photo of every species, but some of them are from far away, whereas I would like to see a more detailed image. Still, this book is essential to learning ferns in Florida.

A concise and well organized book of Florida ferns and lycophytes. Well illustrated with color photos. Text is clear and very useful. Highly recommended to all fern lovers from Florida or even from further afield.

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