

# ebony spleenwort

## *Asplenium platyneuron*

### FEATURES

The ebony spleenwort is a fern. Each of its leaves may attain a length of about 12 inches and be divided into 18 or more pairs of leaflets. Leaves may be erect or growing along the ground. The stipe and rachis are both dark.

### BEHAVIORS

The ebony spleenwort may be found in the southern one-half of Illinois. This fern grows in dry or moist woodlands, fields and along or on walls in well-drained, rocky soil. The ebony spleenwort produces spores from May through September. It grows in groups of two or three plants or in colonies.

### TAXONOMY

Kingdom: Plantae  
Division: Pteridophyta  
Class: Filicopsida  
Order: Polypodiales  
Family: Aspleniaceae

### ILLINOIS STATUS

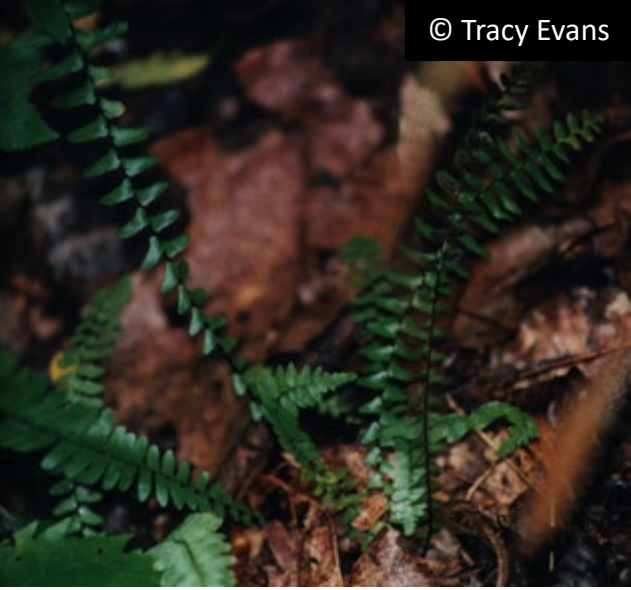
common, native

### ILLINOIS RANGE









in leaf litter



growing on rock



### **Aquatic Habitats**

bottomland forests

### **Woodland Habitats**

coniferous forests; upland deciduous forests

### **Prairie and Edge Habitats**

none