

netted chain-fern

Woodwardia areolata

FEATURES

The netted chain-fern is an upright plant with leaves about 24 inches long and six inches wide. Each green leaf is divided into 10 or more pairs of leaflets. The leaflet is thin, sharp-pointed and has a wavy margin. The third pair of leaflets from the base of the leaf is usually the longest. The rachis is green-brown and slightly scaly. The stipe is longer than the leaf. It is yellow-green above and red-brown at the base with a few scales.

BEHAVIORS

The netted chain-fern may be found in Johnson and Pope counties in Illinois. It grows in marshy areas in lowland woods and on sandstone cliffs. Spores are produced from July through October.

TAXONOMY

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

ILLINOIS STATUS

common, native

ILLINOIS RANGE





Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests

Woodland Habitats

bottomland forests; coniferous forests; southern Illinois lowlands;
upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

none