

Bog fern

Coryphopteris simulata

25 to 80 cm



Threatened species in Quebec



CHARACTERISTICS

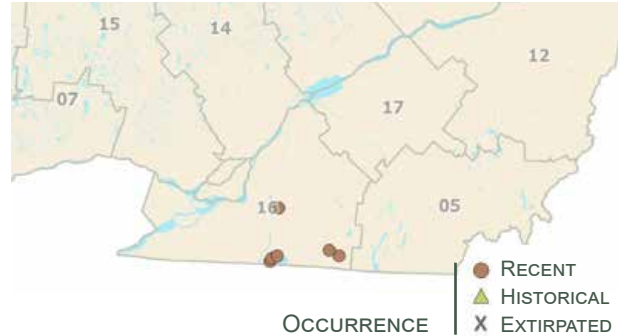
- Fern with fronds (leaves) that are all the same (monomorphic).
- Round-shape sore (spore-bearing organ under fern fronds).
- Species very similar to marsh fern (a common fern found in the same habitats).



OBSERVATION PERIODS

IDENTIFICATION | summer
 SPORULATION (SPORE FORMATION) | mid-August to early October

DISTRIBUTION IN QUEBEC



HABITAT

Swamps, wet deciduous or coniferous forests:
 Peaty red maple stands;
 Peaty spruce stands, with black spruce and larch.



MAIN THREATS

- Urban and agricultural development.
- Black earth extraction.
- Drainage of wetlands.

The excessively small number of occurrences of the species in Quebec and its small, low-viability local populations accentuate its precarious status at the northern limit of its range.

MANAGE YOUR FOREST WHILE PROTECTING AT-RISK FLORA

Your woodlot contributes to the protection of forest species in precarious situations. It is often preferable to avoid forest management interventions in their habitats. If such activities must be carried out, the protection of these species requires the following precautions:

STEP 1: IDENTIFY AND LOCATE THE SPECIES

Onsite, during the appropriate identification period, locate all the plants of the species (or have this done by a competent person). Then outline the zones where they are found (occupied zones) as well as the surrounding buffer zone.

STEP 2: PROTECT THE PLANTS

This species is protected under Quebec's Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species. It is forbidden to destroy, mutilate or harvest its plants or parts of them (art. 16)

Given the extreme rarity of this species and its threatened status, avoid carrying out any kind of forestry operations at any time of year in the occupied zone.

STEP 3: AVOID MAJOR DISTURBANCES in the occupied and buffer zones

- Ø Landing (wood piling) areas
- Ø Forest road construction
- Ø Forest drainage
- Ø Clearcuts
- Ø Scarification of the forest floor

STEP 4 : ADAPT PRACTICES BASED ON SPECIES SENSITIVITY

Sensitivity to opening of the forest canopy	Sensitivity to drainage pattern changes	Sensitivity to trampling and mechanical damage
Low to moderate	High	Low to moderate

IN THE OCCUPIED ZONE • Avoid all forestry operations (partial forest canopy opening is allowed if carried out outside this zone without causing trees to fall in it). • Avoid leaving logging debris on the ground (branches, etc.).

IN THE BUFFER ZONE • Opening of the forest canopy is allowed. Use partial cuts or low-intensity thinning to maintain shade and its beneficial effect on soil moisture.

- As the species is particularly susceptible to drainage changes, avoid altering drainage and minimize soil compaction: use an adapted skidder or forwarder and plan logging trails on soils with adequate load-bearing capacity.



If the plant cannot be identified or located, apply the protection measures to the entire forest stand.

Advise forest workers about plant locations as well as protection measures to apply.

This fact sheet was developed through the integration of scientific elements and discussions between experts from the MFFP and the MELCC. The recommendations may evolve as new knowledge becomes available. For references, please visit afm.qc.ca/fiches-paf-bonifies.