



ILLINOIS STATUS

common endangered threatened
 native exotic

ILLINOIS RANGE

Permanent resident: statewide

Summer resident:

Migrant:

Winter resident:

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.

Biodiversity of Illinois, Volume 2: Woodland Habitats CD-ROM.

maidenhair fern

Adiantum pedatum

Kingdom: Plantae
Division/Phylum: Filicophyta
Class:
Order:
Family:

FEATURES

The maidenhair fern has curved, flat fronds on thin stalks. Each flat frond may attain a length of more than 10 inches. Leaflets are blue-green and arranged five or six per each branch of stalk. The rachis is red-brown. The stipe is smooth and black or dark brown. It may grow to 20 inches in length. The fiddleheads are dark red.

BEHAVIORS

The maidenhair fern may be found statewide in Illinois. It grows in moist, shaded, rich woodlands, especially in ravines or under wet, rock banks. Spores are produced June through September.

HABITATS

bottomland forests
 coniferous forest
 southern Illinois lowlands
 upland deciduous forest