



ILLINOIS STATUS

common endangered threatened
 native exotic

ILLINOIS RANGE

Permanent resident: Johnson and Pope counties

Summer resident:

Migrant:

Winter resident:

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Illinois Department of Natural Resources. 1999.

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

filmy fern

Trichomanes boschianum

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

FEATURES

The filmy fern is also known as the bristle fern. It is an extremely delicate plant with leaves only one cell thick. The leaves grow very close together and often form a mat. Each leaf is about six inches long and one and one-half inches wide. The light green leaves are evergreen and lance-shaped. Each leaf is divided into about six pairs of lacy leaflets, and the leaflet is divided further into two or more subleaflets. The short, green stipe is winged. The green rachis is also winged.

BEHAVIORS

The filmy fern may be found in Johnson and Pope counties in Illinois. It grows under moist, overhanging sandstone cliffs. Spores are produced from June through September.

HABITATS

bottomland forests
 coniferous forest
 southern Illinois lowlands
 upland deciduous forest