

## ***SENSITIVE FERN***

*Onoclea sensibilis*

***Sensitive fern gets its name from the tendency of the fronds to wither at the first slight frost. Aka: Bead Fern, Meadow Brake .***



**Description:** A deciduous, coarse textured, perennial fern, with broader leaves and leaflets than most other ferns. Clustered like beads or grapes on the upright fertile fronds. Often forms thick stands. A low maintenance fern for moist sites which, despite its name, tolerates the toughest of conditions.

**Natural Habitat:** In wet meadows, thickets, and woods; stream and riverbanks; swamps and bogs.

**Size:** 18 – 24” tall

**Growth Rate:** Moderate

**Light:** Shade – will tolerate sun if adequate moisture

**Planting and Care:** Acidic soil. Winter survival improves if dried fronds are left on plant over winter. Fertilization unnecessary. Requires moist soil year round.

**Ornamental Value:** A very ornamental and easily grown fern

**Landscape Usage:** Good for bogs, natural gardens, or as a shade groundcover.

**\*\*Implicated in the poisoning and death of horses grazing**