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# Fiddlehead Forum

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## Pteridophyte Genera *The Meaning of Their Names*

by Ralph R. Stewart, David M. Johnson, and John T. Mickel\*

### *Prologue* by the junior authors

In the summer of 1981 Dr. Stewart approached David Johnson with this manuscript, asking that he do the re-typing and standardization of format necessary to make it ready for publication. It was soon realized that there were still derivations to check, biographical data to fill in, and etymologies to explain. Furthermore, Dr. Stewart did not distinguish between etymologies which he had gleaned from the literature and those which he had suggested based upon his own knowledge of words and plants.

Thus, to make this list authoritative and reliable, it would have been necessary to start from the beginning, checking original descriptions and other reliable etymological sources and comparing actual plant specimens with the possible name derivations. We have checked the original descriptions of nearly half the genera. A number of interpretations adopted by Dr. Stewart (some from Wittstein, 1856, and Backer, 1934) seemed highly unlikely. For example, Backer speculated that Presl's *Parestia* meant 'by the fireside,' believing that was where he was when he described the genus, and *Anapausia*, meaning 'rest,' speculating that was what he did after describing it. Based on Rupert Barneby's knowledge of languages and our own familiarity with the plant material and considerable library study, we have revised those we could. Ideally, we would like to check all the names and cite the reference for each derivation—perhaps in a future edition. Even in its imperfect state we hope this list will be useful. We are open to suggestion regarding the meanings of many of

the names and would be glad to hear of additions, corrections or alternative postulations.

Each generic name is followed by its author and presumed etymology and allusion. In some cases a genus will have one author in parentheses. The one in parentheses described it first but at a different taxonomic level, such as subgenus or section, and the second author (outside the parentheses) gave it the rank of genus.

For uniformity we are using the infinitive forms of the verbs and nominative forms of the nouns. Thus, the roots of irregular words may not appear quite like their forms in the generic names. We have prepared a list of the authors of the genera to give an idea of when and where they worked. There are still a few minor gaps; additions and corrections are welcomed.

We have relied heavily on the library and herbarium of the New York Botanical Garden, and we are especially indebted to Dr. Rupert Barneby for his careful and perceptive reading of the manuscript and his many useful suggestions and corrections. His knowledge of classical languages has been invaluable. We also wish to thank Alan Smith and Michael Price for their reading of the manuscript and their comments.

\*Dr. Stewart is now fully retired from botanical research. Inquiries can be directed to either of the junior authors: David Johnson, Department of Botany, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, or John Mickel, New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY 10458.

## Introduction

*Ralph Randles Stewart, University of Michigan Herbarium*

For many years I have been interested in the meaning and origin of words and names. As a botanist I have had to deal with thousands of generic and specific names, and it added to my interest in a plant when I was able to find out its meaning or origin. I taught botany to Indian and Pakistani students for nearly fifty years, and as none of them knew any Latin or Greek and as they had little in the way of library facilities, all the generic and specific plant names they saw in books were meaningless to them.

After I had published my Annotated Catalogue of the Plants of Pakistan and Kashmir in 1972, with the needs of foreign students in mind I began collecting lists of words and the names of the authors and collectors who had worked in the *Flora Indica* and the *Flora Iranica* floral areas.

As this is a vast field, I thought that I would do the ferns separately as this was one of the groups which I liked best. After listing the ferns for this region, I realized that the demand for such a list would not be great and that it would be more useful to make a list of the pteridophyte genera of the world.

I was at the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew at that time and told my friend Frank (Francis) Ballard, retired Kew pteridologist, about my project. He was interested and offered to cooperate with me in making a complete list of fern genera and in looking up their meanings. Unfortunately, Ballard had a bad heart and before very much of the work had been completed, he died of heart failure.

Returning to the University of Michigan, I showed Dr. W. H. Wagner, Jr., the pteridologist there, what I had done to that point. He was interested and encouraged me to go ahead and complete the work.

As my primary interest in this paper is etymological and I am only an amateur pteridologist, I have not tried to pass judgment on which generic names are taxonomically valid or invalid. I have merely tried to enter all the names which are to be found in Carl Christensen's Index Filicum (1906) and supplements (1913, 1917, 1934), Copeland's Genera Filicum (1947), Rouleau's Guide to Index Kewensis (1970), and lists by Crabbe et al. (1975) and Pichi Sermolli (1977). Many of the early pteridologists were classical scholars and assumed that their successors would not have any trouble in translating their names. They did not foresee the time when many, if not most botanists would not know Latin or Greek. Presl usually explained why he used his names but I had assumed that Fee never did, until, again by chance, I was using Fee's Genera Filicum (1852) and found on pages 361-362 the etymology of 45 of his generic names, reducing my number of unsolved problems considerably.

I solved a number of my problems by looking up the original descriptions, but sometimes I could not figure out why the author proposed his name. In some cases I was unable to locate the original description.

Many authors have failed to see that future generations of botanists would be interested in why they selected their names and that it was important to choose names with care. When the name calls attention to an important character of the new taxon, it is a great help to all future students. A generic name like Acanthea at once calls attention to spines as few ferns are at all prickly. A name like Alsophila, from alsos, woodland, + philein, to love, calls attention to the habitat of the fern; similarly, Niphopteris, Snow Fern, indicates the fern's habitat. Actiniopteris calls attention to the lobes of the frond spreading out like rays or spokes. When a fern comes from a limited area, say an island or a single country or a distinct habitat, calling attention to that fact through the generic name may be helpful. Boniniella indicates that the fern comes from the Bonin Islands and Fuziifilix indicates that it was found on Mount Fuji in Japan. Sinopteris indicates that it was discovered in China and Japanobotrychium, a Botrychium-like plant from Japan.

Adanson and Rafinesque frequently coined names without meaning. Some authors have made new names by rearranging the letters of older names or dropping a syllable as Rafinesque did when he created Copodium and Acopodium from Lycopodium.

A large number of generic names are derived from the names of people. Several such names honor people who are not identified by the author. Gaudichaud, the French apothecary/botanist who made a world voyage with the de Freycinet Expedition (1817-1820), was especially guilty of this (e.g., Lacaussadia). Perhaps the names were of people on the expedition who had collected for him and had discovered the genus, but we will never know. I know of authors writing on flowering plants who described species honoring their wives, various members of their families and personal friends not connected with botany. One Frenchman, I am told, named species for his mistresses.

Authors presumably know why they give the names they do to their scientific offspring, and it would not be a hardship for them if they were required by fiat of a Botanical Congress to explain what their new name means or why they use it.

As this seems to be the first attempt to prepare a dictionary of fern genera, I cannot expect that it will be free from mistakes. The literature about ferns is now so vast and in so many languages that there are no doubt papers in existence that would have solved some of the difficulties.

How many fern genera are there? That depends on how the genera are circumscribed. Pteridologists do not agree on the limits of all genera; there are splitters and the lumpers. Copeland, after long study of the Hymenophyllaceae, decided that there are more than thirty genera in that family, whereas Morton (1968) recognized only six,

four of them monotypic. The list of Crabbe et al. (1975) contains 414 genera of pteridophytes; that of Pichi Sermolli (1977) has 449. Probably no two experts would recognize exactly the same number. A list of all published genera, including all synonyms, is twice as long. There are 955 in the Rouleau list (1970) and 923 in Pichi Sermolli (1977), 969 in Crabbe et al. (1975), and 989 in mine.

There is no doubt about who has proposed the most generic names. According to my count, Presl contributed no less than 140 names whereas John Smith contributed 67. I have credited Copeland with 51 and Fee with 50. Of the first four, only Copeland is modern. The other three were pioneers when new genera were easier to find. Ching with 30 genera to his credit comes fifth. Rafinesque, Linnaeus, Kaulfuss, Bernhardt, Christensen, Link, and Robert Brown described between 15 and 19 each. Pichi Sermolli, J. E. Smith, Kunze, Swartz, van den Bosch, Nakai, Blume, Christ, and Holttum each named between 10 and 15 genera. Of the above, only Ching, Holttum, and Pichi Sermolli are still alive.

Since I formally retired in 1960, I have spent fourteen summers at the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. Most of the time was spent working on the flora of Pakistan and Kashmir. I received innumerable kindnesses from many people at Kew over the years and never felt like a foreigner. Directors, Keepers of the Herbarium, working scientists and porters made me feel at home and I am happy to record my gratitude here. As for my work with ferns, I have already mentioned the help I received from Frank Ballard. Francis Jarrett helped me to determine the meaning of several generic names, and Dr. Eric Holttum has been an inspiration to me. I have also benefited from his answers to my questions about ferns, and he explained to me the meanings of his new genera of thelypteroid ferns.

In the bibliography I have included only the books and papers that I have found most useful. I have included G. C. Wittstein's Handwörterbuch although Dr. W. T. Stearn warned me that it is not reliable; I have found useful hints in it but have used it with Dr. Stearn's warning in mind. This book contains 17,000 entries and was first published in 1852. The copy I have used is a 1971 reprint of the 1856 edition; few books have been in print so long. However, only the older fern names are found in it.

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## LIST OF GENERA AND THEIR DERIVATIONS

- ABACOPTERIS Fée: Gr. abakos, gaming board + ptēris, fern. Fée stated that the areoles are almost quadrilateral so that they resemble a checkerboard.
- ABRODICTYUM Presl: Gr. abros, fine, delicate + diktynon, net. The cell walls appear as a net.
- ACANTHEA Lindig: Gr. akantha, thorn. Alludes to the prickly rachis and stipe.
- ACHOMANES Necker: A word coined to resemble Trichomanes and indicate relationship to that genus.
- ACONIOPTERIS Presl: Gr. akonein, to make a sharp point + ptēris fern. Alludes to the veins forming pointed angles near the leaf margin.
- ACOPIDIUM Necker: A name coined to resemble Lycopodium.
- ACROPELTA Nakai: Gr. akros, summit + pelte, shield. The sorus is apical and the indusium peltate.
- ACROPHORUS Presl: Gr. akros, summit + phorein, to bear. Alludes to the sori which are terminal on the veins.
- ACROPTERIS Link: Gr. akros, summit + ptēris, fern. Meaning as in the preceding.
- ACROPTERYGIUM (Diels) Nakai: Gr. akros, summit + pterygium, diminutive of pteryx, wing. The ultimate divisions of the frond resemble wings.
- ACRORUMOHRA (H. Ito) H. Ito: Gr. akros, summit + Rumohra. Like Rumohra but with terminal sori.
- ACROSORUS Copeland: Gr. akros, summit + soros. Sori at the tips of segments.
- ACROSTICHUM Linnaeus: Gr. akros, summit + stichos, row. The sori are borne only on the terminal pinnae.
- ACTINIOPTERIS Link: Gr. aktis, ray + ptēris, fern. Alludes to the radiating divisions of the frond.
- ACTINOPHLEBIA Presl: Gr. aktis, ray + phleps. Alludes to the radiating veinlets.
- ACTINOSTACHYS Wallich ex Brackenridge: Gr. aktis, ray + stachys, spike. The apical segments of the fertile fronds are digitately arranged.
- ACYSTOPTERIS Nakai: Gr. a, not + Cystopteris. A fern deceptively like Cystopteris.
- ADECTUM Link: Gr. adektos, incredible. Allusion unknown.
- ADENODERRIS J. Smith: Gr. aden, gland + derris, hide. Alluding to the highly glandular epidermis.
- ADENOGRAMME Link: Gr. aden, gland + gramme, line. Allusion unknown.
- ADENOPHORUS Gaudichaud: Gr. aden, gland + phorein, to bear. The fronds bear numerous glands.
- ADIANTHUM Linnaeus corr. Manetti: = Adiantum.
- ADIANTOPSIS Fée: Adiantum + Gr. opsis, like.
- ADIANTUM Linnaeus: Gr. adiantos, unwettable. An ancient name alluding to the water-repellent fronds.
- AETOPTERON Ehrhardt ex House: Gr. aetos, eagle + pteron, wing. The pinnae resemble eagle wings.
- AFROPTERIS Alston: Afro, African + Gr. ptēris, fern. A fern native to Africa.
- AGLAOMORPHA Schott: Gr. aglaios, splendid + morphe, shape. Aglaia was one of the Graces of Greek mythology.
- AITHEROBOTRYS Wallich: Gr. aitheros, air, sky + botrys, a cluster of grapes. Allusion unknown.
- ALCICORNIIUM Gaudichaud ex Underwood: Gr. alke, elk + cornu, horn. The fertile fronds resemble elk horns.
- ALEURITOPTERIS Fée: Gr. aleurites, floury or mealy + ptēris, fern. The lower surfaces of the fronds appear to have been dusted with powder.
- ALLANTODIA R. Brown; also Wallich ex J. Smith: Gr. allantos, a small sausage. Alludes to the indusium shape.
- ALLOSORUS Bernhardt: Gr. allos, different + soros. The sori are not all the same shape.
- ALLOSTELITES C. Borner: Gr. allos, other or different + stēle, support. Alludes to the shoot dimorphism. In some species of horsetails.
- ALSOPHILA R. Brown: Gr. alsos, grove, woodland + philein, to love. A shade-loving tree fern.
- AMAUROPELTA Kunze: Gr. amauros, dark, obscure + pelte, shield. Perhaps referring to the indusia.
- AMBLIA Presl: Gr. amblys, blunt. Alludes to the obtuse vein areoles.
- AMBLIA Fée: = Amblia
- AMESIUM Newman: Gr. a, without + mesium, midvein. The ultimate divisions of the pinnae lack midveins.
- AMPELOPTERIS Kunze: Gr. ampelos, vine + ptēris, fern. Alludes to the production of proliferous vine-like shoots in the axils of the pinnae.
- AMPHIBLESTRA Presl: Gr. amphiblestron, a net. The fronds have well-developed reticulate veins.
- AMPHICOSMTA Gardner: Gr. amphi, around + kosmos, the world. A genus found in both the Old and New Worlds.
- AMPHIDESMIUM Schott ex Kunze: Gr. amphi, both sides of + desma, a chain. Differs from other cyatheoid ferns in having several sori per vein instead of a single sorus per vein.
- AMPHINEURON Holtum: Gr. amphi, both + neuron, vein. Both free and net veins are found in the genus.
- AMPHIPTERUM Presl ex Copeland: Gr. amphi, both + pteron, wing. There are accessory laminar plates on one or both surfaces of the minor axes of the leaves.
- AMPHISORIA Trevisan: Gr. amphi, both + soros. Sporangia borne on both surfaces of the pinnules.
- AMPHORADENIUM Desvoux: Gr. amphora, a two-eared pitcher + aden, gland. Alludes to the glandular, pitcher-like receptacle of the indusium.
- ANANTHACORUS Underwood & Maxon: Gr. an, without + anthos, flower + Acorus, sweetflag (cattail-like member of the Araceae). Resembling sweetflag but without flowers.
- ANAPAUSIA Presl: Gr. anapausis, rest. Allusion unknown. (Stewart suggested that Presl rested after describing this genus, but this seems highly unlikely.)
- ANAPELTIS J. Smith: Gr. ana, without + pelte, shield. The indusium is absent.
- ANARTHROPTERIS Copeland: Gr. ana, without + arthron, joint + ptēris, fern. There is no joint between the stipe and the rhizome.
- ANAXETUM Schott: Gr. anax, lord, king + etum, having the nature of or pertaining to. A fine large epiphyte.
- ANCHISTEA Presl: Gr. anchistos, a relation. This fern is next of kin to Woodwardia and Doodia.
- ANEIMIA Swartz corr. Kaulfuss: = Anemia.
- ANEIMIAEBOTRYS Fée: Anemia + Gr. botrys, a cluster of grapes. The sporangial clusters resemble bunches of grapes.
- ANEIMIDICTYON J. Smith corr. Christensen: Anemia + Gr. dictyon, net. Like Anemia but with net veins.
- ANEIMIDICTYUM J. Smith ex Hooker corr. Presl: = Anemidictyon.
- ANEMIA Swartz: Gr. aneimon, naked. Alludes to the exposed sporangia on the sporophylls.
- ANEMIRHIZA J. Smith: Anemia + Gr. rhiza, root. Allusion is to the long-creeping rhizome.
- ANETIUM (Kunze) Splitgerber: Gr. a, without + neos, heap. The sporangia are scattered, not grouped in sori.
- ANGIOPTERIS Adanson: Gr. angeion, case or capsule + ptēris, fern. Adanson gave this name to the sensitive fern, probably alluding to the contracted fertile pinnules which enclose the sporangia.
- ANGIOPTERIS Hoffmann: Same etymology as preceding, but referring instead to the large incipient synangia.
- ANISOCAMPTIUM Presl: Gr. anisos, unequal + campe, curve, bend. The vein areoles are few, and irregular.
- ANISOGONIUM Presl: Gr. anisos, unequal + gonia, angle. Alludes to the unequal anastomosing of the veins.
- ANISOSORUS Trevisan ex Maxon: Gr. anisos, unequal + soros. The sori are of various sizes.
- ANOGRAMMA Link: Gr. ano, upward + gramme, line. The elongate sori are on the terminal segments.
- ANOGRAMMA Link corr. Fée: = Anogramma.
- ANOPTERIS (Prantl) Diels: Gr. anom upward + ptēris, fern. Alludes to the erect rhizome.
- ANTIGRAMMA Presl: Gr. anti, opposite + gramme, line. The sori are paired opposite each other and become confluent into lines.
- ANTIGRAMME Presl corr. Fée: = Antigramma.
- ANTIOSORUS Roemer ex Kuhn: Gr. antios, opposite + soros. The sori are opposite.
- ANTROPHIUM Kaulfuss corr. Gaudichaud: = Antrophyum.
- ANTROPHYOPSIS Benedict: Antrophyum + Gr. opsis, like.
- ANTROPHYUM Kaulfuss: Gr. antron, cave + phyein, to grow. A cave dweller.
- APALOPHLEBIA Presl: Gr. apalos, thin, slender + phleps, vein. A fern with slender veins.
- APHYLLOCALPA Cavanilles: Gr. a, without + phyllon, leaf + kalpis, urn. The urn-shaped sporangia are not borne on leafy tissue as the lamina is reduced or lacking in the fertile portions of the leaves.
- APHYLLOCARPA Endlicher: = Aphyllocalpa. Endlicher was correcting what he thought was a typographical error.
- APTEROPTERIS (Copeland) Copeland: Gr. a, without + pteron, wing + ptēris, fern. A fern without an expanded lamina.
- AQUILINA Presl: L. aquila, eagle. The wide spreading fronds are like the wings of an eagle.
- ARACHNIODES Blume: Gr. arachnion, spider's web + odes, having the form or nature of. Holtum (pers. comm.) suggested that what Blume saw was a network of fungal hyphae or webs of tiny spiders on his specimens.



- ARAIOSTEGIA Copeland: Gr. araios, thin + stegē, roof, covering. Alludes to the thin indusium.
- ARCHANGIOPTERIS Christ & Giesenhagen: Gr. archaios, old, ancient + Angiopteris. A purportedly primitive Angiopteris or precursor of that genus.
- ARCASPLENIUM Moore ex Baker: Gr. archaios old, ancient + Asplenium. Supposedly a primitive Asplenium or precursor of that genus.
- ARCYPTERIS Underwood: Gr. arkys, net + ptēris, fern. Alludes to the reticulate veins.
- AROPTERIS Alston: = Afropteris. A typographical error.
- ARTHROBOTRYA J. Smith: Gr. arthron, joint + botrys, bunch, cluster. The bases of the pinnae and pinnules are articulate; fertile pinnae contracted into clusters.
- ARTHROBOTRYA Wallich; also (Presl) Lindley: = Arthrobotrya.
- ARTHROMERIS (Moore) J. Smith: Gr. arthron, joint + meris, part. Alludes to the articulations between the pinnae and the rachis.
- ARTHROPTERIS J. Smith: Gr. arthron, joint + ptēris, fern. A jointed fern.
- ASPIDIUM Swartz emend. Christensen: Gr. aspidium, a little shield. Alludes to the shape of the indusium.
- ASPIDOTIS (Nuttall ex Hooker) Copeland: Gr. aspidotes, shield-bearer. Has shield-like false indusia.
- X ASPLENOCYSTOPTERIS Pournier: A purported intergeneric hybrid between Asplenium and Cystopteris.
- ASPLENIDICTYUM J. Smith: Asplenium + Gr. diktyon, net. An Asplenium with reticulate veins.
- ASPLENIOPSIS Mettenius ex Kuhn: Asplenium + Gr. opsis, like.
- ASPLENIUM Linnaeus: Gr. splen, spleen. A fern thought by Dioscorides to be useful in treating diseases of the spleen.
- X ASPLENOCETERACH D. Meyer: An intergeneric hybrid between Asplenium and Ceterach.
- X ASPLENOPHYLLITIS Alston: An intergeneric hybrid between Asplenium and Phyllitis.
- X ASPLENOSORUS Wherry: An intergeneric hybrid between Asplenium and Camptosorus.
- ASTEROGLOSSUM J. Smith: Gr. aster, star + glossa, tongue. Alludes to the stellate hairs on strap-like fronds.
- ATALOPTERIS Maxon & Christensen ex Maxon: Gr. atalos, delicate + ptēris, fern.
- ATHYRIOPSIS Ching: Athyrium + Gr. opsis, like.
- ATHYRIUM Roth: Gr. athyros, doorless. The sporangia only tardily push back the outer edge of the indusium.
- AUSTROGRAMME Fournier: L. auster, south wind + Gr. gramme, line. Like Syngamma but from the Southern Hemisphere.
- AZOLLA Lamarck: Gr. azo, to dry + olluo, to kill. This aquatic fern is presumably killed by drying.
- BAKERIOPTERIS O. Kuntze corr. Christensen: = Bakeropteris.
- BAKERIOPTERIS O. Kuntze: a fern (ptēris) named for John Gilbert Baker, 1834-1920, pteridologist at Kew.
- BALANTIUM Kaulfuss: Gr. balantion, bag or pouch. Alludes to the form of the indusium.
- BATHMIUM (Presl) Link: Gr. bathmos, step or rung. The lobes of the frond are arranged like the rungs of a ladder.
- BELVISIA Mirbel: named for A.M.F.J. Palisot de Beauvois (L. Belvisius), 1752-1820, French traveler and agrostologist.
- BERGERA Schaffner: named for C.J. Berger, 1724-1789, professor of botany at Kiel, Germany.
- BERNHARDIA Willdenow ex Bernhardt: named for Johann Jacob Bernhardt, 1774-1850, pteridologist and botany professor in Erfurt, Germany.
- BIROPTERIS Kummerle: named for S.S. Bir, 1929- , Indian pteridologist.
- BLECHNIDIUM Moore: Blechnum + Gr. idium, a diminutive suffix. A small blechnoid fern.
- BLECHNOPSIS Presl: Blechnum + Gr. opsis, like.
- BLECHNOPTERIS Trevisan: Blechnum + Gr. ptēris fern.
- BLECHNUM Linnaeus: Gr. blechnon, an ancient name for ferns in general.
- BLOTIELLA R. Tryon: named for Marie-Louise Tardieu-Blot, 1902- , French pteridologist.
- BOLBITIS Schott: Gr. bolbition, diminutive of bolbos, bulb. Alludes to the small gemmae borne on the fronds in some species.
- BOMMERIA Fournier: named for Joseph Edouard Bommer, 1829-1895, Belgian pteridologist.
- BONINIELLA Hayata: Bonin Islands near Japan + diminutive L. ella. A small fern from the Bonin Islands.
- BOSCHIA Copeland: named for Roelof Benjamin van den Bosch, 1810-1862, Dutch collector in Java, Mauritius, and elsewhere who specialized in the filmy ferns.
- BOTRYCHIUM Swartz: Gr. botrys, bunch, cluster. Alludes to the grape-like clusters of sporangia on the fertile segments of the fronds.
- BOTRYOGRAMME Fée: Gr. botrys, cluster + gramme, line. The clusters of sporangia are arranged in lines.
- BOTRYOPTERIS Presl: Gr. botrys, cluster + ptēris, fern. A fern with sporangia borne in grape-like clusters.
- BOTRYPUS Michaux; also Richard: Gr. botrys, cluster + pous, foot. The clusters of sporangia are borne on a foot or stalk.
- BOWRINGIA Hooker: named for Sir John Bowring, 1792-1872, British consul at Canton, China, Governor of Hong Kong, and orchid grower at Windsor, England.
- BRACHYSORUS Presl: Gr. brachys, short + soros.
- BRAINEA J. Smith: named for C.J. Braine, a Hong Kong merchant who sent ferns to Kew between 1844 and 1852.
- BUESIA (Morton) Copeland: named for G. Bues of Quillabamba, Peru.
- BYRSOPTERIS Morton: Gr. byrsa, hide or skin + ptēris, fern. The frond has a leathery texture.
- CAENOPTERIS Bergius: Gr. cainos, new, recent + ptēris, fern. It was a new discovery for Bergius.
- CALAMARIA Boehmer: Gr. calamos, reed + aris, resembling. A reed-like quillwort.
- CALAMISTRUM Linnaeus ex O. Kuntze: Gr. calamos, reed + astrum, a suffix meaning false. Resembling but not really a reed.
- CALLIPTERIS Bory: Gr. kallos, beautiful + ptēris, fern.
- CALLISTOPTERIS Copeland: Gr. kallistos, most beautiful + ptēris, fern.
- CALLOGRAMME Fée: Gr. kallos, beautiful + gramme, line. The sporangia follow the veins and make an attractive pattern of lines.
- CALOMELANOS (Presl) Lindley: Gr. kallos, beautiful + melas, black. Alludes to the lustrous black stipes.
- CALYMELLA Presl: Gr. kalymma, veil, hood + diminutive L. ella. The ultimate pinnules are small and hood-like.
- CALYMODON Presl: Gr. kalymma hood + odous, tooth. The teeth on the margins of the pinnae are folded over and enclose the sporangia.
- CALYPTERIUM Bernhardt: Gr. kalypterion, a cover. The pinnule lobes enclose the sori.
- CAMPIUM Presl: Gr. kampe, bend, curve. Alludes to the curving veins.
- CAMPTERIA Presl: Gr. kamptos, arched, curved. The veins meet, forming an arch.
- CAMPTODIUM Fée: Gr. kamptos, curved. A fern with indusia strongly bent or curved at the middle.
- CAMPTOSORUS Link: Gr. kamptos, curved + soros. The sori are bent or crooked.
- CAMPYLOGRAMMA v.A.v.R.: Gr. kampylos, arched + gramme, line. The lines of sori curve.
- CAMPYLONEURON Presl: = Campyloneurum.
- CAMPYLONEURUM Presl: Gr. kampylos, arched + neuron, nerve. Secondary veins form arches between the primary.
- CAMPYLONEURON Presl corr. Fée: = Campyloneurum.
- CANDOLLEA Mirbel: named for Augustin Pyramus de Candolle, 1778-1841, Swiss botanist at Geneva.
- CAPILLUS-VENERIS Hill: L. capillus hair + veneris, of Venus. Latinization of the vernacular name, Venus' Hair.
- CARDIOCHLAENA Fée: Gr. kardia, heart + chlaena, cloak. Alludes to the heart-shaped indusia.
- CARDIOMANES Presl: Gr. kardia, heart + manes, cup. The fronds are cordate and the indusia cup-shaped.
- CARPANTHUS Rafinesque: Gr. karpos, fruit + anthos, flower. This name refers to Gratiola, a member of the Scrophulariaceae, but appears in the literature as a synonym for Azolla.
- CARPOGYMNIA (H.P. Fuchs ex Janchen) Love & Love: A rearrangement of the elements in Gymnocarpium, q.v.
- CARPOLEPIDIUM Palisot Beauv.: Gr. karpos, fruit + lepidion, a small scale. The sporangia are subtended by small scales.
- CASEBEERIA Kaulfuss corr. Fée: = Cassebeera.
- CASSEBEERA Kaulfuss: named for Johann Heinrich Cassebeer, 1785-1850, a German pharmacist.
- CASSEBURA Kaulfuss corr. Link: = Cassebeera.
- CASSIOPTERIS Karsten ex Klotzsch: etymology unknown.
- CATENULARIA Zippelius ex Mettenius: L. catenula, little chain + aria, like. Sori in chain-like rows.
- CELANTHERA Thouin: etymology unknown.
- CEPHALOCERATODON Gennari: = Cephaloceraton.
- CEPHALOCERATON Gennari: Gr. kephale, head + keras, horn. Alludes to horn-like processes on the leaf sheaths.
- CEPHALOMANES Presl: Gr. kephale, head + manes, cup. Alludes to the rounded head of the receptacle protruding from the cup-like indusium.



- CERATODACTYLIS J. Smith: Gr. keras, horn + dactylos, finger. Alludes to the fertile pinnule shape.
- CERATOPTERIS Brongniart: Gr. keras, horn + pterus, fern. Alludes to the antler-like fertile fronds.
- CEROPTERIS Link: Gr. keros, beeswax + pterus, fern. Alludes to the wax-like farina which is secreted on the lower surface of the fronds.
- CEROSORA (Baker) Domin: Gr. keros, wax + soros. A golden waxy farina is secreted by paraphyses among the sori.
- CETERAC Adanson: = Ceterach.
- CETERACH Lamarck & de Candolle: Arab. sjetrak, an old name applied to the plant by Persian physicians.
- CETERACHOPSIS (J. Smith) Ching: Ceterach + Gr. opsis, like.
- CHAMAECLELINIS Martens: Gr. chamae, on the ground + klinein, to recline. A fern creeping on the ground.
- CHAMAEPHILIX Hill ex Farwell: Gr. chamae, on the ground + filix, fern. A terrestrial fern rather than an epiphyte.
- CHEILANTHES Swartz: Gr. cheilos, lip + anthos, flower. Alludes to the position of the sporangia beneath the lip-like false indusium.
- CHEILANTHOPSIS Hieronymus: Cheilanthes + Gr. opsis, like.
- CHEILANTHOS Lagasca: = Cheilanthes.
- CHEILOGRAMMA (Blume) Underwood corr. Underw.: = Cheilogramme.
- CHEILOGRAMME (Blume) Maxon: Gr. cheilos, lip + gramme, line.
- CHEILOLEPTON Fée: Fée reversed the elements of Lepto-cheilus, q.v.
- CHEILOPLECTON Fée: Gr. cheilos, lip + plectein, to weave or plait. Possibly alluding to the convex and corrugated false indusium.
- CHELOSORIA Trevisan: Gr. cheilos, lip + soros. The marginal sori are covered by the lip-like reflexed leaf margin.
- CHEIROGLOSSA Presl: Gr. cheir, hand + glossa, tongue. The fertile segment of the frond is tongue-like, and the sterile blade palmate.
- CHEIROPLEURIA Presl: Gr. cheir, hand + pleuron, rib. A fern with palmately-veined sterile fronds.
- CHEIROPTERIS Christ: Gr. cheir, hand + pterus, fern. The leaf blades are typically palmatisect.
- CHIENIOPTERIS Ching: named for S.S. Chien, Director of Botany, Academia Sinica, and president of the Botanical Society of China.
- CHINGIA Holttum: named for Ren-Chan Ching, 1898-Chinese pteridologist.
- CHONTA Molina: The Chilean name of this plant.
- CHNOOPHORA Kaulfuss: Gr. chnoos, wool + phorein, to bear. A fern with woolly trichomes in the sori and elsewhere.
- CHORISTOSORIA Mettenius ex Kuhn: Gr. choristos, separated + soros. There is a discrete indusium for each sorus.
- CHORIZOPTERIS Moore: Gr. chorizein, to separate + pterus, fern. The fronds are dimorphic.
- CHRISTELLA Léveillé emend. Holttum: named for Hermann Christ, 1833-1933, Swiss pteridologist.
- CHRISTENSENIA Maxon: named for Carl Frederick Albert Christensen, 1872-1942, Danish pteridologist and compiler of Index Filicum.
- CHRISTIOPTERIS Copeland: Hermann Christ + Gr. pterus, fern. See Christella.
- CHRYSOCHOSMA (J. Smith) Kummerle: Gr. chrysos, golden + chosma, a powder. The lower surfaces of the fronds have a golden farina.
- CHRYSODIUM Fée: Gr. chrysos, golden + eidōs, like. Alludes to the color of the young fertile pinnae.
- CHRYSOPTERIS Link: Gr. chrysos, golden + pterus, fern. Alludes to the gold-colored fronds of the type species.
- CIBOTIUM Kaulfuss: Gr. kibotos, a small chest or casket. Alludes to the shape of the indusium.
- CINCINALIS Gleditsch: L. cinninus, a curl. Perhaps referring to the false indusium.
- CLONIDIUM Moore: Gr. kionos, column or pillar + idium, a diminutive suffix. Each sorus is terminal on a small projection from the margin of the frond.
- CLEMENTEA Cavanilles: named for D. Simon Rojas Clemente y Rubio, 1777-1827, Central African explorer and pupil of Cavanilles.
- CLOPODIUM Rafinesque: a name devised by altering the name Lycopodium, q.v.
- CNEMIDARIA Presl: Gr. knemis, spoke of a wheel + aris, resembling. The lowest veins radiate like wheel spokes.
- CNEMIDOPTERIS Reichenbach: Gr. knemis, spoke of a wheel + pterus, fern. Alludes to the radiating veins.
- COCHLIDIUM Kaulfuss: Gr. cochlea, spoon + eidōs, like. The tip of the frond is spoon-like.
- COELOPTERIS A. Braun ex Mettenius: Gr. kōilos, hollow + pterus, fern. May refer to the pockets wherein the sori are located.
- COENOPTERIS Bergius corr. Léman: Gr. koinos, common + pterus, fern. Allusion unknown.
- COLINA E.L. Greene: named for the French professor Colin.
- COLYSIS Presl: Gr. kolysis, a separation or interruption. Alludes to the discontinuous rows of sori.
- X CONIODICTYOGRAMME Nakai: Nakai believed it an intergeneric hybrid between Coniogramme and Dictyogramme.
- CONIOGRAMME Fée: Gr. kōnis, dusty + gramme, line. The sporangia are not in round sori but in distinct brown lines following the veins.
- COPELANDIOPTERIS B.C. Stone: named for Edwin Bingham Copeland, 1873-1964, American pteridologist.
- COPODIUM Rafinesque: Lycopodium decapitated. Cf. Acopodium and Clopodium.
- COPTIDOPTERIS Nakai & Momose: Coptis, a genus of Ranunculaceae + pterus, fern. A fern resembling Coptis.
- COPTOPHYLLUM Gardner: Gr. koptein, to cut + phyllon, leaf. The leaf blades are incised.
- CORMOPHYLLUM Newman: Gr. kormos, log, stump + phyllon, leaf. The leaves grow from a tree-like trunk.
- CORNOPTERIS Nakai: L. cornu, horn + pterus, fern. Alludes to the horn-like growths in the rachis groove where the pinnae are inserted.
- CORYPHOPTERIS Holttum: Gr. corypha, summit + pterus, fern. This fern grows only on high ridges.
- COSENTINIA Todaro: named for Ferdinando Cosentini, 1764-1840, professor of botany at Catania, Italy.
- COSTARICIA Christ: named for the country of Costa Rica.
- CRASPEDARIA Link: Gr. craspedon, fringe + aris, provided with. The sori form a marginal fringe on the frond.
- CRASPEDODICTYUM Copeland: Gr. craspedon, fringe, border + dictyon, net. There is a marginal vein network.
- CRASPEDONEURON van den Bosch: Gr. craspedon, fringe, border + neuron, vein. Alludes to the prominent marginal vein.
- CRASPEDOPHYLLUM (Presl) Copeland: Gr. craspedon, border + phyllon, leaf. The frond has a black margin.
- CREPIDIUM Presl: Gr. krepis, slipper + ion, like. Alludes to the shape of the indusium.
- CREPIDOMANES (Presl) Presl: Gr. krepis, slipper + manes, cup. Alludes to the shape of the sorus.
- CREPIDOPHYLLUM Reed: Gr. krepis, slipper + phyllon, leaf. The leaves are slipper-shaped.
- CREPIDOPTERIS Copeland: Gr. krepis, slipper + pterus, fern. As the preceding.
- CRYP SINOPSIS Pichi Sermolli: Crypsinus + Gr. opsis, like.
- CRYP SINUS Presl: Gr. krypsinos, hidden. The main veins are usually evident, but they are connected by concealed cross-veins which branch and form a net.
- CRYPTERIS Nuttall: Gr. kryptos, hidden + pterus, fern. The sori are hidden by the reflexed frond margin.
- CRYPTOGENIS L.C. Richard: Gr. kryptos, hidden + genos, offspring. The sporangia are hidden by the revolute margins of the frond.
- CRYPTOGRAMMA R. Brown: Gr. kryptos, hidden + gramme, line. The line of sori is hidden by the reflexed leaf margin.
- CRYPTOPHYLLUM Gardner corr. Schlechtendal: a typographical error for Coptophyllum.
- CRYPTOSORUS Fée: Gr. kryptos, hidden + soros. The sori are sunken into the leaf tissue.
- CRYPTOSTIGMA A. Braun: Gr. kryptos, hidden + stigma, eye-spot. Presumably referring to the sori which are hidden by the inrolled leaf margins.
- CTEISIUM Michaux: Gr. kteis, comb. The narrow fertile pinna lobes suggest the teeth of a comb.
- CTENITIS (Christensen) Christensen ex Tardieu & Christensen: Gr. kteis, comb. As the preceding.
- CTENITOPSIS Tardieu & Christensen: Ctenitis + Gr. opsis, like. A genus resembling Ctenitis.
- CTENOPTERIS Blume ex Kunze; also Newman: Gr. kteis, comb + pterus, fern. Alludes to the pinnae which are pectinately lobed so as to be comb-like.
- CULCITA Presl: L. culcita, a bed or cushion. Alludes to the arched, cushion-like indusium, or perhaps the soft, hairy crown.
- CURRANIA Copeland: named for Hugh McCullom Curran, 1875-1932, Bureau of Forestry, Manila, collector in the Philippine Islands.
- CUSPIDARIA Fée: Gr. cuspis, point + aris, bearing. Alludes to the teeth of the frond which bear sporangia.
- CYATHEA J.E. Smith: Gr. kyathos, wine cup. Alludes to the shape of the indusium.
- CYCLODIUM Presl: Gr. kyklodes, ring-like. Alludes to the orbicular indusium.

- CYCLOGRAMMA Tagawa: Gr. kyklos, circle + gramme, line. The sori are small, round, and in lines.
- CYCLOPELTIIS J. Smith: Gr. kyklos, circle + pelte, shield. The indusium is shaped like a round shield.
- CYCLOPHORUS Desvoux: Gr. kyklos, circle + phorein, to bear. The leaves bear round sori.
- CYCLOPTERIS Schrader ex S.F. Gray: Gr. kyklos, circle + ptēris fern. As the preceding.
- CYCLOSORUS Link: Gr. kyklos, circle + soros. As above.
- CYRTOGONELLUM Ching: diminutive of Cyrtogonium.
- CYRTOGONIUM J. Smith: Gr. kyrtos, curved + gonium, angle. The veins curve and form angles.
- CYRTOMIDICTYUM Ching: Cyrtomium + Gr. diktyon, net. With a vein reticulum resembling that of Cyrtomium.
- CYRTONIUM Presl: Gr. kyrtoma, arch. The veins anastomose into arches.
- CYRTOPHLEBIUM (R. Brown) J. Smith: Gr. kyrtos, curved + phleps, vein. A fern with arching veins.
- CYSTE Dulac: Gr. kyste, bladder. Alludes to sorus shape.
- CYSTEIA J.E. Smith: As the preceding.
- CYSTIDIUM J. Smith corr. Lindley: = Cystodium.
- CYSTOATHYRIUM Ching: A fern combining characters of Athyrium and Cystopteris.
- CYSTODIUM J. Smith: Gr. kyste, bladder + odous, tooth. Alludes to the form of the indusium.
- CYSTOPTERIS Bernhardt: Gr. kystos, bladder + ptēris, fern. Alludes to the inflated indusium.
- DANAEA J.E. Smith: named for Giovanni Pietro Maria Dana, 1736-1801, professor of botany and friend of Smith.
- DANAEOPSIS Presl: Danaea + Gr. opsis, like.
- DAREA Jussieu: named for George Dare, an 18th century London apothecary who introduced foreign Hymenophyllums into English horticulture.
- DARIA Jussieu corr. J.E. Smith ex Usteri: = Darea.
- DAVALLIA J.E. Smith: named for Edmond Davall, 1763-1798, Swiss collector for J.E. Smith and William Curtis.
- DAVALLIOPSIS van den Bosch: Davallia + Gr. opsis, like.
- DAVALLODES (Copel.) Copeland: Davallia + Gr. odes, like.
- DENDROCONCHE Copeland: Gr. dendron, tree + conchion, sea shell. The sterile fronds of these detritus-collecting epiphytes are shell-shaped.
- DENDROGLOSSA Presl: Gr. dendron, tree + glossa, tongue. Having tongue-shaped fronds and growing on fallen rotting logs.
- DENNSTAEDTIA Bernhardt: named for August Wilhelm Dennstaedt, 1776-1826, German botanist and author.
- DEPARIA Hooker & Greville: Gr. depas, cup or beaker. Alludes to the shape of the indusium.
- DERMATOPHLEBIUM Presl: Gr. derma, skin + phleps, vein. Allusion unknown.
- DESMOPODIUM J. Smith: Gr. desmos, chain + podion, a small foot. Alludes to the sporangia stalk.
- DIACALPE Blume: Gr. dia, through + kalpis, urn. The globose indusium opens distally, releasing the spores as from an urn.
- DIBLEMMA J. Smith: Gr. di, two + blemma, appearance. Alludes to dimorphic fronds having either uninterrupted lines of sporangia or discontinuous lines forming coenosori.
- DICHASTIUM (A. Braun) Fée: Gr. dicha, in two. Copeland (1947) stated that the name was based on a misinterpretation of the indusium and sorus.
- DICHORHEXIA Presl: Gr. dicha, in two + rhexis, a rupture. Alludes to the indusium which splits in two.
- DICKSONIA L'Héritier: named for James Dickson, 1738-1822, Scottish physician and cryptogamic botanist.
- DICLIPTERIS Brackenridge: Gr. diklis, two-doored + ptēris, fern. Has an apparently bivalvate indusium.
- DICLISODON Moore: Gr. diklis, two-doored + odous, tooth. The indusia and the teeth on the pinnule margins give the marginal sori a two-valved appearance.
- DICRANIDIUM Newman: Gr. dikranos, two-pronged. Alludes to the forking of the fronds.
- DICRANOGLOSSUM J. Smith: Gr. dikranos, two-pronged + glossa, tongue. Fronds fork into tongue-like lobes.
- DICRANOPHLEBIA (Martius) Lindley: Gr. dikranos, two-pronged + phleps, vein. Alludes to the dichotomous veins.
- DICRANOPTERIS Bernhardt: Gr. dikranos, two-pronged + ptēris, fern. The fronds are repeatedly forked in a pseudo-dichotomous manner.
- DICTYNIA J. Smith: Gr. diktyon, net. Alludes to the vein reticulum of the frond.
- DICTYOCLINE Moore: Gr. diktyon, net + kline, bed. The sporangia rest upon the surfaces of the netted veins.
- DICYODROMA Ching: Gr. diktyon, net + droma, running. The reticulate veins have a flowing pattern.
- DICTYOGLOSSUM J. Smith: Gr. diktyon, net + glossa, tongue. The venation is reticulate and the fronds tongue-shaped.
- DICTYOGRAMME Fée: Gr. diktyon, net + gramme, line. The lines of sori follow the reticulate veinlets.
- DICTYOPTERIS Presl: Gr. diktyon, net + ptēris, fern. A fern with a conspicuous vein network.
- DICTYOXIPHIDIUM Hooker: Gr. diktyon, net + xiphion, sword. A fern with a network of veins and sword-shaped fronds.
- DIDICLIS Palisot Beauv. ex Mirbel: Gr. di, two + diklis, two-doored. The sporangia are two-valved.
- DIDYMOCHLAENA Desvoux: Gr. didymos, double + chlaina, cloak. It seemed that two sori share an indusium.
- DIDYMOGLOSSUM Desvoux: Gr. didymos, double + glossa, tongue. The cup-like indusium is bilabiate.
- DIELLIA Brackenridge: named for John Diell, 1808-1841, naturalist and chaplain to seamen at Honolulu.
- DIGRAMMARIA Presl: Gr. dis, twice + gramme, line + aris, resembling. A linear sorus is located on each side of the vein.
- DIMORPHOPTERIS Tagawa & Iwatsuki ex Iwatsuki: Gr. dimorphos, in two forms + ptēris, fern. The fronds are dimorphic.
- DIPHASTIATRUM Holub: Diphasium + Gr. astrum, a suffix meaning false. A genus resembling Diphasium.
- DIPHASIMUM Presl ex Rothmaler: Gr. diphasios, two-fold. Allusion unknown.
- DIPLAZIOPSIS Christensen: Diplazium + Gr. opsis, like.
- DIPLAZIUM Swartz: Gr. diplazios, double. The indusia sometimes lie on both sides of a vein.
- DIPLOBLECHNUM Hayata: Gr. diploos, double + Blechnum. A blechnoid fern with two vascular bundles.
- DIPLOPHYLLIUM van den Bosch: Gr. diploos, double + phyllon, leaf. The leaves of this fern are at least two cells thick.
- DIPLOPTERYGIUM (Diels) Nakai: Gr. diploos, double + pterygium, little wing. The two pinnae of the frond resemble wings.
- DIPLORA Baker: Gr. diploos, double + substantive ending. The sori are in facing pairs.
- DIPLOSTACHYUM Palisot Beauv.: Gr. diploos, double + stachys, spike. The plant bears two strobili on a peduncle.
- DIPTERIS Reinwardt: Gr. di, two + ptēris, fern. Fronds are evenly divided into two flabellate halves.
- DISCOSTEGIA Presl: Gr. diskos, disk + stēge, cover. The indusium is discoid.
- DISPHENIA Presl: Gr. dis, twice + sphen, wedge. Presl mistakenly believed the receptacle to be furcate.
- DISTAXIA Presl: Gr. dis, twice + taxis, arrangement. The sori are arranged in two long lines, one on each side of the costa.
- DOODIA R. Brown: named for Samuel Doody, 1656-1706, keeper of the Chelsea Physic Garden, London, and first British cryptogamist.
- DOODYA R. Brown corr. Link: = Doodia.
- DORADILLA Titford: Possibly from the Spanish for 'little gilded thing,' alluding to golden scales or wax on the undersurface of the frond.
- DORCAPTERIS Presl: Gr. dorkas, fallow deer + ptēris, fern. The fertile fronds are antler-like.
- DORYOPTERIS J. Smith: Gr. dory, lance + ptēris, fern. Alludes to the shape of the blade in some species.
- DROPTERIS Adanson corr. Rafinesque: = Dryopteris.
- DRYMOGLOSSUM Presl: Gr. drymos, forest + glossa, tongue. An epiphyte with tongue-like fertile fronds.
- DRYMOTAENIUM Makino: Gr. drymos, forest + taenia, ribbon. An epiphyte with ribbon-like fronds.
- DRYNARIA (Bory) J. Smith: Gr. dryinos, of oaks + perhaps aris, like or aria, a substantive ending. The sterile fronds resemble oak leaves.
- DRYNARIOOPSIS (Copel.) Ching: Drynaria + Gr. opsis, like.
- DRYOATHYRIUM Ching: a fern combining characters of Dryopteris and Athyrium.
- DRYOMENIS Fée ex J. Smith: Gr. drys, oak + mene, moon. The sori are crescent-shaped.
- DRYOPOLYSTICHUM Copeland: A genus with the frond form of Dryopteris and indusia of Polystichum, but not closely allied to either.
- DRYOPTERIS Adanson: Gr. drys, oak + ptēris, fern. A fern growing among oaks.
- DRYOSTACHYUM J. Smith: Gr. drys, oak + stachys, spike. The sterile portions of the fronds are like oak leaves whereas the fertile pinnules are spike-like.
- DRYOSTACHYON J. Smith corr. Fée: = Dryostachyum.

- DYCTIOGRAMME Presl: Gr. diktyon, net + gramme, line. Cf. Dictyogramme.  
 EATONOPTERIS Bommer: named for Alvah Augustus Eaton, 1865-1908, American pteridologist.  
 EDANYOA Copeland: named for G.E. Edano, who collected the fern the Philippine Islands in 1948.  
 EGENOLFIA Schott: named for Christian Egenolff, 1502-1555, German printer and author of a book on herbs.  
 ELAPHOGLOSSUM Schott ex J. Smith: Gr. elaphos, stag + glossa, tongue. The fronds resemble a deer's tongue.  
 ELLEBOCARPUS Kaulfuss corr. Reichenbach: = Ellobocarpus.  
 ELLOBOCARPUS Kaulfuss: Gr. ellobos, in a pod + carpus, fruit. Refers to the concealment of the sporangia beneath pod-like reflexed frond margins.  
 EMOIDOPTERIS Ching & S.K. Wu: Gr. Emodus, the Himalaya + pterus, fern. A Himalayan fern.  
 ENTEROSORA Baker: Gr. enteron, intestine + soros. The sori are not superficial but embedded in the frond.  
 EPIDRYOPTERIS Rojas: Gr. epi, upon or toward + Dryopteris. A genus resembling Dryopteris.  
 EQUISETUM Linnaeus: L. equus, horse + seta, bristle. The shoots of some species resemble a horse's tail.  
 EREMOPODIUM Trevisan: Gr. eremos, solitary + pous, foot. There is usually only a single row of cells in the stalk of the sporangium.  
 X ERIOSONIA Pichi Sermolli: An intergeneric hybrid between Eriosorus and Jamesonia.  
 X ERIOSORTIA Pichi Sermolli: meaning as in the following.  
 ERIOSORUS Fée: Gr. erion, wool + soros. Refers to the rusty, wool-like trichomes in the sori.  
 ESCHATOGRAMME Trevisan ex Christensen: Gr. eschatos, last, farthest + gramme, line. The sori are confined to the terminal portions of the fronds.  
 EUPODIUM J. Smith: Gr. eu, good, true + pous, foot. The syngangium rests upon a definite root or stalk.  
 EUPTERIS Newman: Gr. eu, good, true + Pteris. A true Pteris, not merely resembling one.  
 FADYENIA Hooker: named for James C. Macfadyen, 1798-1850, physician & author of first flora of Jamaica (1837).  
 FEEA Bory: named for A.L.A. Fee, 1789-1874, a pteridologist of Strasbourg.  
 FILICULA Seguir: diminutive of L. filix, fern.  
 FILINGUIS Rafinesque: L. filix, fern + lingua, tongue. Pertains to the shape of the fronds.  
 FILIX Adanson; also Ludwig, Sequier: L. filix, fern.  
 FILIX-FOEMINA Hill ex Farwell: L. filix, fern + foemina, female. The Latin name for the lady fern.  
 FILIX-MAS Hill ex Farwell: L. filix, fern + mas, male. The Latin name for the male fern.  
 FOURNIERA Bommer ex Fournier: named for Eugene Pierre Nicolas Fournier, 1834-1884, Parisian medical botanist and author.  
 FURCARIA Desvoux: L. furca, fork + substantival ending. The fertile frond segments fork.  
 FUZUIFILIX Nakai & Momose: Fuzi, Latinization for Mt. Fuji, Japan + L. filix, fern.  
 GALEGLOSSA Presl: Gr. gale, weasel + glossa, tongue. Refers to the shape of the fronds.  
 GISOPTERIS Bernhardt: Gr. geison, eaves, protective cover + pterus, fern. Each sporangium is subtended by an outgrowth which serves as an indusium.  
 GLAPHYOPTERIS (Fée) Presl ex Fée: Gr. glaphyros, hollow + pterus, fern. Alludes to the large aerophores at the base of the pinnae.  
 GLAPHYOPTERIDOPSIS Ching: Glaphyopteris + Gr. opsis, like.  
 GLEICHENELLA Ching: Gleichenia + L. ella, a diminutive suffix. Like a small Gleichenia.  
 GLEICHENIA J.E. Smith; also Necker: named for Wilhelm Friedrich von Gleichen, 1717-1783, German microscopist.  
 GLEICHENIASTRUM Presl: Gleichenia + Gr. astrum, resembling. A genus reminiscent of Gleichenia.  
 GLYPHOTAENIUM J. Smith: Gr. glyphis, sinuous + taenia, ribbon. The fronds are wavy and ribbon-like.  
 GONIOPHLEBIUM (Blume) Presl: Gr. gonia, angle + phleps, vein. Alludes to the angular network of veins.  
 GONIOPTERIS Presl: Gr. gonia, angle + pterus, fern. The veins meet at sharp angles.  
 GONOCORMUS van den Bosch: Gr. gonos, progeny + kormos, trunk, stump. The frond bases produce new fronds.  
 GRAMMATOPTERIDIUM v.A.v.R.: diminutive of Grammatopteris.  
 GRAMMATOPTERIS v.A.v.R.: Grammitis + Pteris. Having characters of Grammitis and Pteris.  
 GRAMMATOSORUS Regel: Gr. gramme, line + soros. The sori are elongate.  
 GRAMMITIS Swartz: Gr. gramme, line. The sori are elongate to linear.  
 GUERINIA J. Smith: named for N.F. Guerin, 1796-1877, who served under Freycinet on the world voyage of L'Uranie, 1817-1820.  
 GYMNIA Hamilton ex D. Don: Gr. gymnos, naked. Alludes to the glabrous frond surfaces.  
 GYMNOCARPIUM Newman: Gr. gymnos, naked + karpos, fruit. The sori lack indusia.  
 GYMNOCARPIUM Desvoux: Gr. gymnos, naked + gramme, line. Ferns with elongate naked sori.  
 GYMNOCARPIUM Desvoux corr. Kunze: = Gymnogramma.  
 GYMNOCARPIUM Griffith: Gr. gymnos, naked + Grammitis. Probable misspelling of Gymnogrammoides, as spelled elsewhere in Griffith's publication, with no species name, merely a name to denote resemblance and not intended as a new genus.  
 GYMNOCARPIUM Palisot Beauv.: Gr. gymnos, naked + gyne, wife. The megasporangium was alleged to be naked.  
 GYMNOPREMNON Lindig: Gr. gymnos naked + premnnon, trunk or stem. A tree fern with a non-paleaceous trunk.  
 GYMNOPTERIS Bernhardt; also Presl: Gr. gymnos, naked + pterus, fern. An exindusiate fern.  
 GYMNOSPHAERA Blume: Gr. gymnos, naked + sphaera, ball. A fern with spherical, exindusiate sori.  
 GYMNOTHALAMIUM Zenker: Gr. gymnos, naked + thalame, receptacle or chamber. Lacks an indusium.  
 GYMNOTHECA Presl: Gr. gymnos, naked + theke, box. The syngangium is without an indusium.  
 GYROSORIUM Presl: Gr. gyros, round, circle + soros. A fern with round sori.  
 HABRODICTYUM Presl corr. van den Bosch: Gr. habros, fine, delicate + diktyon, net. Alludes to the veins.  
 HAPLODICTYUM Presl: Gr. haplous, simple + diktyon, net. Alludes to the simple network of veins.  
 HAPLOPHLEBIA (Martius) Lindley: Gr. haplous, single, simple + phleps, vein. Not all of the veins anastomose.  
 HAPLOPTERIS Presl: Gr. haplous, simple, single + pterus, fern. Leaves are narrow without reticulate veins.  
 HECISTOPTERIS J. Smith: Gr. hekestos, least + pterus, fern. A very small epiphytic fern.  
 HELMINTHOSTACHYS Kaulfuss: Gr. helminthos, worm + stachys, spike. The fertile segment of the frond is worm-shaped.  
 HEMESTEUM Leveille: Etymology unknown.  
 HEMESTHEUM Newman: Etymology unknown.  
 HEMIANEMIA (Prantl) Reed: Gr. hemi, half, halfway + Anemia. Prantl believed this was intermediate between the very small members of subg. Trochopteris and the more specialized and widespread subg. Euanemia.  
 HEMICARDION Fée: Gr. hemi, half + kardia, heart. The fronds are half-cordate at the base.  
 HEMICYATHEON (Domin) Copeland: Gr. hemi, half + kyathos, a cup. The involucre of this filmy fern is cup-shaped.  
 HEMIDICTYUM Presl: Gr. hemi, half + diktyon, net. The veins anastomose only at the margin of the frond.  
 HEMIGONUM J. Smith: Gr. hemi, half + gonos, progeny. Only half of the frond is fertile.  
 HEMIGRAMMA Christ: Thought by the author to be intermediate between Hemionitis and Syngamma.  
 HEMIONITIS Linnaeus: Gr. hemionos, mule. The ferns were worn as a charm against pregnancy.  
 HEMIPHLEBIUM Presl: Gr. hemi, half + phleps, vein. Half of the veins are actually false veins of sclerenchyma cells.  
 HEMIPTERIS Rosenstock: Gr. hemi, half + Pteris. It is only half a Pteris as the marginal sorus is not continuous.  
 HEMISTACHYUM (Copeland) Ching: Gr. hemi, half + stachys, spike. Instead of the coenosori occupying entire pinnae, several discrete sori are formed.  
 HEMISTEGIA Presl: Gr. hemi, half + stega, cover. The indusium does not completely cover the sorus.  
 HEMITELIA R. Brown: Gr. hemi, half + telia, cup. The small indusium is only on one side of the sorus.  
 HEMITHELIA R. Brown corr. A. Brongnart: = Hemitelia.  
 HETERODANAEA Presl: Gr. heteros, other, different + Danaea, but with a slightly different attachment of the syngangium.  
 HETEROGONIUM Presl: Gr. heteros, other, different + gonia, angle. "The dimorphic fronds, linear and globose sori and heterogeneous condition of the veins in the fronds very well distinguish it from all Grammitaceae."  
 HETERONEURON Fée: Gr. heteros, other + neuron, vein. The veinlets form irregular areoles.  
 HETERONEURUM Presl: meaning as in the preceding.



- HETERONEVRON Fée: = Heteroneuron.  
HETEROPHLEBIUM Fée: Gr. heteros, other + phleps, vein.  
Meaning as in Heteroneuron.  
HETEROPHYLLUM Hieronymus ex C. Borner: Gr. heteros, other + phyllon, leaf. The leaves are dimorphic.  
HETEROPTERIS Fée; also Presl: Gr. heteros, other + ptēris, fern. A distinctive fern.  
HETEROSTACHYS Warburg: Gr. heteros, other + stachys, spike. With more than one kind of spike.  
HEWARDIA J. Smith: named for Robert Heward, 1791-1877, student of West Indian ferns and friend of Smith.  
HIATEA Menzies: L. hiatus, gap, cleft. Alludes to the bivalved indusium.  
HICRIOPTERIS Presl: Gr. ikrion, fork + ptēris, fern. Refers to the pseudo-dichotomous forking of the frond.  
HIPPOCHAETE Milde: Gr. hippos, horse + chaete, bristle, hair. The aerial shoots resemble a horse's tail.  
HIPPODIUM Gaudichaud: Gr. hippodes, horse-like. "Like a horse because it is a large tree-like fern" (Wittstein 1856).  
HISTIOPTERIS (J. Agardh) J. Smith: Gr. histion, sail + ptēris, fern. Refers to the sail-like basal pinnae.  
HOFFMANNIA Willdenow: named for George Francis Hoffmann, 1761-1826, German professor at Goettingen and Moscow and a student of the Umbelliferae.  
HOLCOSORUS Moore: Gr. holcos, furrow or groove + soros. The sori are located in grooves on either side of the costa.  
HOLODICTYUM Maxon: Gr. holos, entire, whole + diktyon, net. All vein forkings end in anastomoses.  
HOLOSTACHYUM (Copeland) Ching: Gr. holos, entire, whole + stachys, spike. The fronds are completely dimorphic rather than hemi-dimorphic.  
HOLTUMIA Copeland: meaning as in the following.  
HOLTUMIELLA Copeland: named for Richard Eric Holttum, 1895- , British pteridologist.  
HOMALOSCHE Ehrhart: Possibly Gr. homalos, even, smooth + losche, twig. Allusion unknown.  
HOMALOSORUS Small ex Pichi Sermolli: Gr. homalos, even, smooth + soros. Alludes to the regular lines of sori.  
HOMOEOPHYLLUM Hieronymus & Sadebeck: Gr. homoiōs, similar + phyllon, leaf. The leaves are monomorphic.  
HOMOEOTES Presl: Gr. homoiōs, similar + otes, resembling. Allusion unknown.  
HOMOPHYLLUM Merino: Gr. homo, same + phyllon, leaf. The fronds are uniform.  
HOMOSTACHYS Warburg: Gr. homo, same, equal + stachys, spike. With only one kind of strobilus.  
HUGONA Cavanilles ex Roemer: = Ugena.  
HUMATA Cavanilles: Gr. humatos, humid, wetted. Cavanilles says it is the inverse of Adiantum, but does not explain further.  
HUMBLOTIELLA Tardieu: named for Leon Humblot, director of the Paris Herbarium, who discovered this fern in Madagascar during his work there 1882-1904.  
HUPEZIA Bernhardt: named for Johann Peter Hupe, d. 1816, author of a book on fern propagation.  
HYALOLEPIS Kunze: Gr. hyalos, glass + lepis, scale. The scales are hyaline.  
HYALOTRICHIA Copeland: Gr. hyalos, glass + thrix, hair. The laminar trichomes are transparent and shiny.  
HYALOTRICHOPTERIS W.H. Wagner: Hyalotrichia + Gr. ptēris, fern. This name was created to replace Hyalotrichia, which had been used earlier for a genus of fungi.  
HYDROGLOSSUM Willdenow: Gr. hydor, water, or possibly Hydra, many headed + glossa, tongue. Allusion unknown. It is not an aquatic.  
HYMENASPENIUM Hayata: Gr. hymen, membrane + Asplenium. An asplenoid fern with membranous fronds.  
HYMENOCYSTIS C.A. Meyer: Gr. hymen, membrane + kystos, bladder. Alludes to the membranous, globose indusium.  
HYMENODIUM Fée: Gr. hymen, membrane + eidos, like. The genus has membranous species.  
HYMENOGLOSSUM Presl: Gr. hymen, membrane + glossa, tongue. The membranous fronds are strap-like.  
HYMENOLAENA C.A. Meyer: Gr. hymen, membrane + laena, cloak. Pertains to the membranous indusium of some species.  
HYMENOLEPIS Kaulfuss: Gr. hymen, membrane + lepis, scale. The borders of the rhizome scales are membranous.  
HYMENOPHYLLOPSIS Goebel: Hymenophyllum + Gr. opsis, like.  
HYMENOPHYLLUM J.E. Smith: Gr. hymen, membrane + phyllon, leaf. The fronds are generally only one cell thick.  
HYMENOPTERIS Kaulfuss: Gr. hymen, membrane + ptēris, fern. The frond blades are membranous.  
HYMENOSTACHYS Bory: Gr. hymen, membrane + stachys, spike. Allusion unknown.  
HYMENOTOMIA Gaudichaud: Gr. hymen, membrane + tomia, a cutting. The fronds are membranous and dissected.  
HYPOCHLAMYS Fée: Gr. hypo, below + chlamys, cloak. Alludes to the supposed position of insertion of the indusium below the vein (Fee 1852).  
HYPODEMATIUM Kunze: Gr. hypodemation, small slipper. Refers to the shape of the indusium (Backer 1934).  
HYPODERRIS R. Brown ex Hooker: Gr. hypo, below + derris, covering, hide. The sporangia are under a calyciform indusium.  
HYPOLEPIS Bernhardt: Gr. hypo, below + lepis scale. The reflexed leaf lobes or false indusia which conceal the sori are scale-like.  
HYPOPELTIS Michaux: Gr. hypo, below + pelte, shield. The sorus is beneath a shield-shaped indusium.  
HYOPTERYGIOPSIS Sakurai: Hypopterygium, a moss + Gr. opsis, like. A fern resembling the moss Hypopterygium.  
HYSTEROCARPUS Langsdorff: Gr. hysteros, later + karpos, fruit. The sporangia mature late.  
IDIOPTERIS T.G. Walker: Gr. idios, separate, peculiar + ptēris. Several characters distinguish it from Pteris.  
IPPHIA Thouars ex Desvoux; also Naronha: Etymology unknown.  
ISOETELLA Gennari: Isoetes + L. ella, diminutive suffix.  
ISOETES Linnaeus: Gr. isos, equal + etes, year. The green leaves are persistent throughout the year in many species.  
ISOLOMA J. Smith: Gr. isos, equal + loma, border. The indusium and margin are equal.  
ITHYCAULON Copeland: Gr. ithys, erect + kaulon, stem. The rhizome is upright.  
JAMESONIA Hooker & Greville: named for William Jameson, 1796-1873, a Scottish doctor who collected plants in many parts of the world.  
JAPANOBOTRYCHIUM Masamune: Japan + Botrychium. A segregate of Botrychium occurring in Japan.  
JENKINSIA Hooker: for Major-General F. Jenkins, 1793-1866, British officer who collected plants in Assam.  
KAULFUSSIA Blume: named for Georg Friedrich Kaulfuss, 1786-1830, fern specialist and professor at Halle, Germany.  
KAULINIA Nayar: named for K.N. Kaul, 1910- , professor of botany and brother-in-law of Jawaharlal Nehru.  
KUNIWATSUKIA Pichi Sermolli: named for Kunio Iwatsuki, 1934- , Japanese pteridologist.  
LACAUSSADIA Gaudichaud: named for one of Gaudichaud's shipmates aboard L'Uranie.  
LACOSTEA van den Bosch: named for Cornelius Marinus van der Sande Lacoste, 1815-1887, student of East Indian bryophytes.  
LACOSTEOPSIS (Prantl) Nakaike: Lacostea + Gr. opsis, like. A genus resembling Lacostea.  
LASTREA Bory: named for Charles Jean Louis Delastre, ca. 1792-1859, French botanist.  
LASTRELLA (H. Ito) Nakai: Lastrea + L. ella, a diminutive suffix. Like a small Lastrea.  
LASTREOPSIS Ching: Lastrea + Gr. opsis, like. Resembling Lastrea.  
LATHYROPTERIS Christ: Lathyrus, sweet pea + ptēris, fern. A fern that climbs by tendril-like tips.  
LECANIUM Presl; also Reinwardt: Gr. lekanion, small dish or pot. Refers to the cup-like indusium with an expanded, bilabiate mouth.  
LECANOLEPIS Pichi Sermolli: Gr. lekane, dish + lepis, scale. The margins of the frond are provided with paired, dish-like scales.  
LECANOPTERIS Reinwardt: Gr. lekane, dish + ptēris, fern. There are dish-like flaps of the blade associated with the sori.  
LEMAPTERIS Rafinesque: Gr. lema, pride, desire or possibly lemma, scale + ptēris, fern. Allusion unknown.  
LEMMA Adanson: Gr. Lemma, a scale-like water-weed. The pre-Linnaean name for Marsilea.  
LEMMAPHYLLUM Presl: Gr. lemma, scale + phyllon, leaf. The sori contain peltate, clathrate paraphyses.  
LENDA Koidzumi: etymology unknown.  
LEPICYSTIS (J. Smith) J. Smith: Gr. lepis, scale + kystis, bladder. The sorus is immersed in scales which form a calyciform indusium.  
LEPIDOCAULON Copeland: Gr. lepis, scale + kaulos, stem. The rhizome is scaly.

- LEPIDOGRAMMITIS Ching: Gr. lepis, scale + Grammitis. A scaly Grammitis-like plant.
- LEPIDONEURON Fée: Gr. lepis, scale + neuron, vein. The scale-like indusium is located on a veinlet.
- LEPIDOTIS Mirbel: Gr. lepidotos, scaly. Refers to the scale-like leaves.
- LEPISORUS (J. Smith) Ching: Gr. lepis, scale + soros. With a scaly sorus.
- LEPTOCHILUS Kaulfuss: Gr. leptos, slender + cheilos, lip. The blade ends in a slender curled tip.
- LEPTOCIONIUM Presl: Gr. leptos, slender + kionion, small column or pillar. Sporangia are on slender stalks.
- LEPTOGRAMMA J. Smith: Gr. leptos, slender + gramme, line. The sori are slender, linear, & oblique to the costa.
- LEPTOLEPIA Mettenius: Gr. leptos, slender + lepis, scale. The scales are slender and hair-like.
- LEPTOPHYLLUM Rafinesque: Gr. leptos, slender + phyllon, leaf. Alludes to the delicate fronds.
- LEPTOPLEURIA Presl: Gr. leptos, slender + pleuron, rib. The veins and veinlets are slender.
- LEPTOPTERIS Presl: Gr. leptos, slender + pteris, fern. The fronds are extremely thin.
- LEPTORUMOHRA H. Ito: Gr. leptos, slender + Rumohra. A delicate Rumohra-like plant.
- LEPTOSTEGIA D. Don: Gr. leptos, slender + steges, cover. The indusium is thin and delicate.
- LEUCOMANES Presl: Gr. leukos, white + manes, cup. The indusium is pale and cup-like.
- LEUCOSTEGIA Presl; also Zippel ex Mettenius: Gr. leukos, white + steges, cover. The indusia are whitish.
- LINDSAEA Dryander ex J. E. Smith: named for John Lindsay, a surgeon in Jamaica at the turn of the 19th century who studied germination of fern spores.
- LINDSAENIUM Fée: = Lindsaynum.
- LINDSAYA Dryander corr. Kaulfuss: = Lindsaea.
- LINDSAYNIUM Fée: nearing Lindsaea by its posture.
- LINDSAYOIDES Nakai: Lindsaea + Gr. oides, resembling. A genus resembling Lindsaea.
- LINDSAYOPSIS Kuhn: Lindsaea + Gr. opsis, like.
- LINDSEA J. E. Smith corr. St. Hilaire: = Lindsaea.
- LITOBROCHIA Presl corr. Brongniart: = Litobrochia.
- LITOSTEGIA Ching: Gr. lithos, stone + steges, cover. Alludes to the thick, stony, dry indusium.
- LITOBROCHIA Presl: Gr. litos, small + brochos, loop. Alludes to the fine meshes of the vein reticulum.
- LITOLOBIUM Newman: Gr. litos, small + lobos, lobe. The lobes on the leaf blade are small.
- LLAVEA Lagasca: named for Pablo de la Llave, 1773-1833, a traveler in Mexico.
- LOMAGRAMMA J. Smith: Gr. loma, border + gramme, line. The sori are along the margins of the pinnae.
- LOMAPHLEBIA J. Smith: Gr. loma, border + phleps, vein. The marginal sorus forms a continuous line.
- LOMARIA Willdenow: Gr. loma, border + aris, suffix. The marginal sorus forms a continuous line which also borders the midrib of the narrow pinnae.
- LOMARIDIUM Presl: Lomaria + suffix, like. Resembling Lomaria.
- LOMARTOBOTRYIS Fée: Lomaria + Gr. botrys, a cluster of grapes. A Lomaria with clustered sori.
- LOMARIOPSIS Fée: Lomaria + Gr. opsis, like. Resembling Lomaria.
- LONCHITIS Linnaeus: Gr. lonche, lance + itis, a suffix indicating a close connection with. An ancient fern name used by Dioscorides.
- LONCHITIS-ASPERA Hill ex Farwell: Lonchitis + L. asper, rough. Like a rough Lonchitis.
- LOPHIDIUM L. C. Richard: Gr. lophos, crest + eidōs, like. The sporangia are borne on pectinate apical projections of the frond.
- LOPHIDIUM Newman: Gr. lophos, crest + odes, resembling. As the preceding.
- LOPHOLEPIS (J. Smith) J. Smith: Gr. lophos, crest + lepis, scale. Each sorus has a dense tuft of elongated scales.
- LOPHOSORIA Presl: Gr. lophos, crest + soros. A copious tuft of hairs is borne among the sporangia.
- LORINSERIA Presl: named for Gustav Lorinser, 1811-1863, a Bohemian physician.
- LOTZEA Klotzsch & Karsten ex Klotzsch: named for Rudolph Hermann Lotze, a German philosopher.
- LOXGRAMMA (Blume) Presl corr. J. Smith: = Loxogramme.
- LOXOGRAMME (Blume) Presl: Gr. loxos, oblique + gramme, line. The elongate sori are oblique to the costa.
- LOXOMA R. Brown ex A. Cunningham: = Loxosoma.
- LOXOSCAPHE Moore: Gr. loxos, oblique + skaphe, small boat or bowl. The bowl-shaped sori are oblique to the costae.
- LOXSOMA R. Brown ex A. Cunningham corr. Hooker: Gr. loxos, oblique + soma, body or band. Probably refers to the oblique annulus of the sporangium. That would produce 'loxosoma,' however; perhaps Hooker's unexplained 'correction' was intended as a contraction.
- LOXSOMOPSIS Christ: Loxsoma + Gr. opsis, like.
- LUERSSENIA Kuhn ex Luerssen: named for Christian Luerssen, 1843-1916, German professor of botany and pteridologist.
- LUNARIA Hill: L. luna, moon + substantival suffix. The lobes of the frond are halfmoon-shaped.
- LUNATHYRIUM Koidzumi: L. luna, moon + Athyrium. An Athyrium-like fern with halfmoon-shaped indusia.
- LUNULARIA Batsch: L. lunula, halfmoon + substantival suffix. The pinnae of the sterile frond are crescent-shaped.
- LYCOPODIELLA Holub: diminutive of Lycopodium.
- LYCOPODIOIDES Boehmer: Lycopodium + Gr. oides, like.
- LYCOPODIODES Dillenius ex O. Kuntze: as the preceding.
- LYCOPODION Adanson: = Lycopodium.
- LYCOPODIUM Linnaeus: Gr. lykos, wolf + pous, foot. The branch tips resemble a wolf's paw.
- LYGODICTYON J. Smith ex Hooker: Lygodium + Gr. diktyon, net. A Lygodium with reticulate venation.
- LYGODIUM Swartz: Gr. lygodes, pliant, flexible. The elongate rachis is flexuous in this climbing fern.
- MACROGLENA (Presl) Copeland: Gr. makros, large + glene, cavity. The indusium is large and cup-shaped.
- MACROGLOSSUM Copeland: Gr. makros, large, + glossa, tongue. The pinnae are long and tongue-shaped.
- MACROPLETHUS Presl: Gr. makros, large + plethos, crowd. A large heap, in allusion to the sori.
- MACROSTOMA Griffith: Gr. makros, large + stoma, mouth. Alludes to the large openings in the synangia.
- MACROTHELPTERIS (H. Ito) Ching: Gr. makros, large + Thelypteris. A large thelypterid fern.
- MARATTIA Swartz: named for Giovanni Francesco Maratti, 1723-1777, a Benedictine abbot and later professor and head of the botanical garden in Rome.
- MARGINARIA Bory: L. margo, margin + substantival suffix. The sporangia are along the margins of the frond.
- MARGINARIOPSIS Christensen: Marginaria + Gr. opsis, like. Resembling Marginaria.
- MARSIGLIA Linnaeus corr. Rafinesque: = Marsilea.
- MARSILAEA Necker: = Marsilea.
- MARSILEA Linnaeus: named for Count Luigi Ferdinando Marsigli, 1656-1730, Italian botanist at Bologna.
- MARSILIA Linnaeus: = Marsilea.
- MARSILLA Linnaeus corr. Rafinesque: = Marsilea.
- MASCHALOSORUS van den Bosch: Gr. maschale, axil + soros. The sori are in sinuses of the leaf blade.
- MATONIA R. Brown: named for George Maton, 1774-1835, London physician, vice-president of the Linnean Society and writer on natural history.
- MATTEUCCIA Todaro: named for Carlo Matteucci, 1800-1863, physicist at the University of Florence, Italy.
- MATTONIA R. Brown ex Wallich corr. Endlicher: = Matonia.
- MAXONIA Christensen: named for William Ralph Maxon, 1877-1948, pteridologist at the U.S. National Herbarium, Washington, DC.
- MECODIUM Presl ex Copeland: etymology unknown.
- MECOSORUS Klotzsch: Gr. mekos, length + soros. The sori are elongate-oblong and well-defined.
- MELANOPTERIS J. Smith: Gr. melos, black + pteris, fern. A fern with dark green foliage.
- MENISCIUM Schreber: Gr. meniskos, diminutive of mene, moon; hence a crescent moon. Pertains to sorus form.
- MENISORUS Alston: Gr. mene, moon + soros. As the preceding.
- MENOPTERIS Rafinesque: Gr. mene, moon + pteris, fern. Refers to the halfmoon-shaped segments of the sterile portion of the frond.
- MERINGIUM Presl: Gr. merinx, bristle. The sporangia are borne on a stiff, bristle-like axis which projects from the indusium.
- MERINTHOSORUS Copeland: Gr. merinthos, cord, line + soros. The sori form a continuous line on either side of the costa.
- MERTENSIA Willdenow: named for Franz Carl Mertens, 1764-1831, professor of botany and director of the Commercial School in Bremen, Germany.
- MESOCHLAENA R. Brown ex J. Smith: Gr. mesos, middle + chlaena, cloak. The indusiate sori are medial.
- MESONEURON Ching: Gr. mesos, middle + neuron, nerve, vein. The sorus is on a vein at middle of pinna.
- MESOPHLEBION Holttum: Gr. mesos, middle + phleps, vein. The basicopic veins of each segment arising from the

- costa at a distance from the costule to which it belongs; new name for *Mesoneuron* Ching (Holttum 1971)
- MESOSORUS Hasskarl: Gr. *mesos*, middle + *soros*. The sori are medial.
- MESOTHEMA Presl: Gr. *mesos*, middle + *thema*, topic, here meaning the frond. The sori are midway between the midrib and the margin.
- METATHELYPTERIS (H. Itô) Ching: Gr. *meta*, next to, beside + *Thelypteris*. A genus very close to *Thelypteris*.
- METAXYA Presl: Gr. *metaxy*, between or in the middle of. The sori are between the forks of the veins.
- MICROBROCHIS Presl: Gr. *mikros*, small + *brochos*, mesh, loop. A fern with small meshes in its vein network.
- MICROCHLAENA Ching: Gr. *mikros*, small + *chlaena*, cloak. The indusium is small and fugitive.
- MICROGONIUM Presl: Gr. *mikros*, small + *gonos*, progeny. These ferns are very small.
- MICROGRAMMA Presl: Gr. *mikros*, small + *gramme*, line. The sori are slightly elongated in the type species.
- MICROLEPIA Presl: Gr. *mikros*, small + *lepis*, scale. Alludes to the small indusium.
- MICROPODIUM Mettenius: Gr. *mikros*, small + *pous*, foot. Refers to the small, knob-like, leaf-bearing phyllopodia on the rhizome.
- MICROPOLYPODIUM Hayata: Gr. *mikros*, small + *Polypodium*. Like a small *Polypodium*.
- MICROPTERIS Desvoux; also J. Smith: Gr. *mikros*, small + *ptēris*, fern. A genus of diminutive ferns.
- MICROSCHIZAEA Reed: Gr. *mikros*, small + *Schizaea*. A small *Schizaea*.
- MICROSORIUM Link corr. Link: Gr. *mikros*, small + *soros*. The sori are small and scattered.
- MICROSORIUM Link: = *Microsorium*.
- MICROSTAPHYLA Presl: Gr. *mikros*, small + *staphyle*, cluster (as of grapes). The name may refer to the small clusters of fronds, or possibly the finely divided fronds may resemble a cluster of grapes.
- MICROSTEGIA Presl: Gr. *mikros*, small + *stēge*, cover, roof. Alluding to the small indusium.
- MICROSTEGNIUM Presl: Gr. *mikros*, small + *stēgnos*, closed, constricted. The indusium is small or incomplete.
- MICROTHERUS Presl: Gr. *mikroteros*, small, inferior. Pertains to the size of the fronds.
- MICROTROCHOMANES (Mettenius) Copeland: Gr. *mikros*, small + *Trichomanes*. Resembling a small *Trichomanes*.
- MILDELLA Trevisan: named for Carl August Julius Milde, 1824-1871, of Breslau, Germany, a student of ferns and bryophytes.
- MIRMAU Adanson: a name given to *Lycopodium selago* in Silesia.
- MOHRIA Swartz: named for Daniel Mathias H. Mohr, 1780-1808, cryptogamist at the University of Kiel, Germany and close friend of Swartz.
- MONACHOSORELLA Hayata: diminutive of *Monachosorum*.
- MONOACHOSORIUM Kunze: Gr. *monachos*, solitary + *soros*. The sori are usually solitary and terminal on the veins.
- MONOCHLAENA Gaudichaud: Gr. *monos*, one + *chlaena*, cloak. Two sori have a common indusium.
- MONOGONIA Presl: Gr. *monos*, one + *gonia*, angle. Having simple, acute-angled venation.
- MONOGRAMMA Commerson ex Schkuhr: Gr. *monos*, one + *gramme*, line. The sori are in a single line on each frond and there is a single vascular bundle per frond in the simpler species.
- MONOMELANGIUM Hayata: Possibly from Gr. *monos*, one + *melas*, black + *angeion*, capsule. Allusion unknown.
- MORTONOPTERIS Pichi Sermolli: named for Conrad Vernon Morton, 1905-1972, pteridologist at the U.S. National Herbarium, Washington, DC.
- MUELLERIA Schaffner: named for Friedrich Muller, an Alsatian who went to Mexico as a plant collector in 1853 and disappeared (not immediately).
- MYRIODON (Copeland) Copeland: Gr. *myrios*, myriad + *odos*, tooth. The frond consists of a skeleton of vascular tissue bearing a rudimentary lamina of many teeth.
- MYRIOPTERIS Fée: Gr. *myrios*, myriad + *ptēris*, fern. The blade is dissected into a myriad of segments.
- MYRIOTHECA Commerson ex Jussieu: Gr. *myrios*, myriad + *theka*, box, capsule. The synangia are numerous on the adaxial surface of the frond.
- MYRMECOPHILA Christ ex Nakai: Gr. *myrmex*, ant + *philein*, to love. The rhizomes have hollow, swollen areas which are inhabited by ants.
- MYRMECOPTERIS Pichi Sermolli: Gr. *myrmex*, ant + *ptēris*, fern. As the preceding.
- MYRMECOSTYLUM Presl: Gr. *myrmex*, ant + *stylum*, column or pillar. The warty outgrowths toward the top of the receptacle suggest ants.
- MYUROPTERIS Christensen: Gr. *mys*, + *oura*, tail + *ptēris*, fern. The narrow fertile frond suggests the tail of a mouse.
- NANNOTHELYPTERIS Holttum: Gr. *nanos*, dwarf + *Thelypteris*. A tiny *Thelypteris*.
- NANOPTERIS Vareschi: Gr. *nanos*, dwarf + *ptēris*, fern. A small grammitid fern.
- NEGRIPTERIS Pichi Sermolli: named for Giovanni Negri, director of the Botanical Institute of Florence, Italy, who discovered the plant in Ethiopia in 1909.
- NEMATOPERA Kunze: Gr. *nema*, thread + *pera*, pouch. Each sorus is borne on a slender thread-like pedicel.
- NEMATOPTERIS v.A.v.R.: Gr. *nema*, thread + *ptēris*, fern. A fern with filiform fronds.
- NEOCHEIROPTERIS Christ: Gr. *neos*, new + *Cheiropteris*. A genus resembling *Cheiropteris*.
- NEOLEPISORUS Ching: Gr. *neos*, new + *Lepisorus*. A genus resembling *Lepisorus*.
- NEONIPHOPSIS Nakai: Gr. *neos*, new, recent + *Niphopsis*. A genus resembling *Niphopsis*.
- NEOTOPTERIS J.Smith: Gr. *neottia*, bird's nest + *ptēris*, fern. An epiphyte which has fronds forming a basket in which detritus accumulates.
- NEPHELEA R.Tryon: Gr. *nephele*, cloud. A fern growing among the clouds.
- NEPHRODIUM L.C.Richard: Gr. *nephros*, kidney. The indusium is kidney-shaped.
- NEPHROLEPIS Schott: Gr. *nephros*, kidney + *lepis*, scale. As the preceding.
- NEOPTERIS Copeland: Gr. *nesos*, island + *ptēris*, fern. Known only from the Pacific islands and East Indies.
- NESORIS Rafinesque: apparently a coined name.
- NEUROCALLIS Fée corr. Presl: Gr. *neuron*, vein + *kallos*, beautiful. The venation pattern is attractive.
- NEURODIUM Fée corr. J.Smith: Gr. *neuron*, vein + *ium*, a suffix denoting resemblance. Veinlets are embossed.
- NEUROGRAMMA Link: Gr. *neuron*, vein + *gramme*, line. There are lines of sporangia along all the veins.
- NEUROMANES Trevisan: Gr. *neuron*, vein + *manes*, cup. The indusium is cup-like and placed on a vein.
- NEURONTA D.Don: Gr. *neuron*, vein. With prominent veins.
- NEUROPHYLLUM Presl: Gr. *neuron*, vein + *phyllon*, leaf. The fronds have several prominent main veins.
- NEUROPTERIS Desvoux: Gr. *neuron*, vein + *ptēris*, fern. The sori are terminal on the veins.
- NEUROSORIA Mettenius ex Kuhn: Gr. *neuron*, vein + *soros*. The sori are scattered all over the veins.
- NEUROSORIUM Trevisan: Gr. *neuron*, vein + *soros*. The sori extend along the veins.
- NEUROCALLIS Fée: = *Neurocallis*.
- NEURODIUM Fée: = *Neurodium*.
- NEUROPLATYCEROS Fée: Gr. *neuron*, vein + *platys*, flat + *keras*, horn. The flat, antler-like fronds bear prominent veins.
- NIPHIDIUM J.Smith: Gr. *nipha*, snow + *eidōs*, like. The fronds of the type species bear dense white indument.
- NIPHOBOLUS Kaulfuss: Gr. *niphobolos*, snow-clad. The stellate-haired fronds are conspicuously white.
- NIPHOPSIS J.Smith: Gr. *nipha*, snow + *opsis*, like. White stellate hairs densely clothe the fronds.
- NIPHOPTERIS Maxon ex Lellinger: Gr. *nipha*, snow + *ptēris*, fern. Fern occurring in mountains near snow line.
- NOTHOCHLAENA R.Brown corr. Kaulfuss: = *Notholaena*.
- NOTHOLAENA R.Brown: Gr. *nothos*, false + *chlaena*, cloak. The blade margin is not reflexed as in *Cheilanthes*.
- NOTHOPERANEMA (Tagawa) Ching: Gr. *nothos*, false + *Peranema*. Not a true *Peranema*.
- NOTOGRAMME Presl: Gr. *notos*, back + *gramme*, line. The sori are in lines on the lower frond surface.
- NOTOLEPEUM Newman: Gr. *notos*, back + *lepion*, small scale. The upper surface of the frond is covered with fine scales.
- OCHLOGRAMMA Presl: Gr. *ochlos*, unruly throng + *gramme*, line. The sori are linear and may be either on one side of a vein (athyrioid) or on both sides (diplazioid).
- OCHROPTERIS J.Smith: Gr. *ochros*, pale + *ptēris*, fern. The stipe and rachis are pale.
- ODONTOLOMA J.Smith: Gr. *odous*, tooth + *loma*, border. The margin of the frond is toothed.
- ODONTOMANES Presl: Gr. *odous*, tooth + *manes*, cup. The sori are on the teeth of the frond and the indusia are cup-like.
- ODONTOPTERIS Bernhardt: Gr. *odous*, tooth + *ptēris*, fern. The sporangia are on the teeth of the pinnae.
- ODONTOSORIA Fée: Gr. *odous*, tooth + *soros*. The sori are



- attached at the extreme end of a small vein which traverses a marginal denticulation.
- ONOTRICHIA Copeland: Gr. oinos, wine + thrix, hair. The pubescence of the type species was reddish.
- OEOSPORANGIUM De Visiani: Gr. oios, alone + sporangium. The sporangia are solitary.
- OETOSIS Necker ex E.L.Greene: etymology unknown.
- OLEANDRA Cavanilles: The fronds resemble the leaves of oleander (Merium, Apocynaceae).
- OLEANDROPSIS Copeland: Oleandra + Gr. opsis, like. Resembling Oleandra.
- OLFERISIA Raddi: named for Ignaz Franz Werner von Olfers, 1793-1871, a professor who collected in Brazil.
- OLIGOCAMPIA Trevisan: Gr. oligos, few + kampe, bending. Alludes to the sparse vein areolae.
- ONOCLEA Linnaeus: Gr. onos, vessel + kleiein, to close. The pinnules of the sporophyll roll up into bead-like segments which enclose the sori. 'Onokleia' was also a name given to some Greek plant.
- ONOCLEOPSIS Ballard: Onoclea + Gr. opsis, like.
- ONOPTERIS Necker: Gr. onos, ass + pterus, fern. Allusion unknown.
- ONYCHIUM Kaulfuss; also Reinwardt: Gr. onychion, small claw or nail. Refers to the shape of the ultimate frond segments.
- OOCHLAMYS Fée: Gr. oon, egg + chlamys, cloak. The indusium is ovoid.
- OPHIALA Desvaux: Gr. ophis, snake + ala, related to or belonging to. The fertile segment of the frond is long and slender like a snake.
- OPHIODERMA (Blume) Endlicher: Gr. ophis, snake + derma, skin. The author may have thought that the venation of the leaf suggested a snakeskin.
- OPHIOGLOSSUM Linnaeus: Gr. ophis, snake + glossa, tongue. The fertile spike resembles a snake's tongue.
- OPHIOPTERIS Reinwardt: Gr. ophis, snake + pterus, fern. The rhizomes are sinuous and long-creeping.
- OREOGRAMMITIS Copeland: Gr. oreos, mountain + Grammitis. The fern was discovered on top of Mt. Kinabalu, Borneo, and resembled a Grammitis.
- OREOPTERIS Holub: Gr. oreos, mountain + pterus, fern. A fern of mountains.
- ORMOLOMA Maxon: Gr. hormos, chain, necklace + loma, border. The sori are grouped at the base of the marginal teeth of the frond.
- ORMOPTERIS J.Smith: Gr. hormos, chain, necklace + pterus, fern. The sori along the veins are spaced so as to resemble the beads of a necklace.
- ORNITHOPTERIS Bernhardt; also (J. Agardh) J. Smith: Gr. ornis, bird + pterus, fern. Allusion unknown.
- ORTHIOPTERIS Copeland: Gr. orthos, straight + pterus, fern. Copeland may have alluded to the erect stem.
- ORTHOGRAMMA Presl: Gr. orthos, straight + gramme, line. Refers to the straight elongate sori which are nearly continuous.
- OSMUNDA Linnaeus: derivation uncertain. Perhaps named for Osmunder, Saxon god of war. May also be derived from L. os, bone + munda, cure, in that the root of Osmund was used as a remedy for rickets; or from L. mundae, to clean, since it was used medically to clean bones.
- OSMUNDASTRUM Presl: Osmunda + Gr. astrum, a diminutive suffix. A genus resembling Osmunda.
- OSMUNDOPTERIS (Milde) Small: Osmunda + pterus, fern. A fern like Osmunda, perhaps in reference to the much-modified fertile portion of the frond.
- OTHONOLOMA Link: Gr. othone, sail + loma, border. The frond has a sail-like border.
- OXYGONIUM Presl: Gr. oxys, sharp, acute + gonia, angle. The leaves have a vein network with many acute angles.
- OXYNEMUM Rafinesque: Gr. oxys, sharp, acute + nema, thread. Allusion unknown.
- PACHYDERRIS J.Smith ex Moore: Gr. pachys, thick + derris, hide. Perhaps in allusion to the coriaceous fronds.
- PACHYLOMA van den Bosch: Gr. pachys, thick + loma, border. The fronds have black, thickened margins.
- PACHYPLEURIA (Presl) Presl: Gr. pachys, thick + pleuron, rib. The pinnae have thickened costae.
- PAESIA St.Hilaire: named for Duke Fernando Diaz Paes Leme, who visited Brazil in 1660 on government service from Portugal.
- PALHINHAEA Franco & Vasconcellos: named for Ruy Telles Palhinha, 1871-1950, Portuguese botanist and student of the flora of the Azores.
- PALMA-FILIX Adanson: L. palma, palm + filix, fern. The fronds are resemble of palm leaves.
- PALTONIUM Presl: Gr. palton, lance, spear. The fronds are lanceolate.
- PANICULARIA Colla: L. panicula, panicle, tuft + aris, resembling. The fronds are pinnately decomposed, thus resembling a panicle.
- PAPUAPTERIS Christensen: Papua + pterus, fern. A genus described from Papua New Guinea.
- PARABLECHNUM Presl: Gr. para, beside + Blechnum. A genus closely akin to Blechnum.
- PARACETERACH Copeland: Gr. para, beside + Ceterach. A genus close to Ceterach.
- PARADAVALLODES Ching: Gr. para, beside + Davallodes. A genus closely related to Davallodes.
- PARADENNSTAEDTIA Tagawa: Gr. para, beside + Dennstaedtia. Tagawa believed the genus close to Dennstaedtia.
- PARAGRAMMA (Blume) Moore: Gr. para, beside + gramme, line. The line of sori is close to the margin and runs parallel to it.
- PARALEPTOCHILUS Copeland: Gr. para, beside + Leptochilus. A genus closely akin to Leptochilus.
- PARAPOLYSTICHUM (Keyserling) Ching: Gr. para, beside + Polystichum. A genus close to Polystichum.
- PARASORUS v.A.v.R.: Gr. para, beside + soros. The long, linear sori are along the frond margins.
- PARATHELYPTERIS (H. Itô) Ching: Gr. para, beside + Thelypteris. A genus close to Thelypteris.
- PARATHYRIUM Holtum: Gr. para, beside + Athyrium. A genus close to Athyrium.
- PARESTIA Presl: etymology not explained; perhaps from Gr. parestos, set beside or compared, the genus segregated from and compared to Stenolobus (Davallia).
- PARKERIA Hooker: named for Charles Sandbach Parker, d. 1869, of Blochairn, Scotland, who collected in the West Indies and discovered this plant near Essequibo, British Guiana.
- PATANEMA J.Smith ex Moore: Gr. patane, flat dish + nema, thread. This manuscript name is a synonym of Clonidium in which the sorus sits in a dish-like indusium on a vein extension surpassing the margin by about a millimeter.
- PATANIA Presl: Gr. patane, flat dish. Alludes to the shape of the indusium.
- PELLAEA Link: Gr. pellos, dusky. The fronds are mostly bluish-gray.
- PELLAEOPSIS J.Smith: Pellaea + Gr. opsis, like. Resembling Pellaea.
- PELTAPTERIS Link: Gr. pelte, shield + pterus, fern. The fertile laminae are round and appear peltate.
- PELTOCHLAENA Fée: Gr. pelte, shield + chlaena, mantle, cloak. The indusium is peltate.
- PERANEMA D.Don: Gr. pera, pouch + nema, thread. The pouch-like indusium has a thread-like stalk.
- PERICOPTIS Wallich: Gr. peri, around + koptos, to cut up. The margin of the frond is incised.
- PERIPTERIS Rafinesque: Gr. peri, around + pterus, fern. The allusion may be to the marginal sori.
- PERONEMA D. Don corr. Kaulfuss: = Peranema.
- PESSOPTERIS Underwood & Maxon: Gr. peossos, checkerboard + pterus, fern. The anastomosing veins form a checkerboard pattern.
- PHANEROPHLEBIA Presl: Gr. phaneros, evident, visible + phleps, vein. The veins are clearly visible.
- PHANEROPHLEBIOPSIS Ching: Phanerophlebia + Gr. opsis, like. Resembling Phanerophlebia.
- PHANEROSORUS Copeland: Gr. phaneros, evident + soros. The sori are prominent and terminal on veinlets.
- PHEGAPTERIS Fée emend. Ching: Gr. phegos, beech + pterus, fern. A fern growing under beech trees.
- PHLEBIOGONIUM Fée: Goniophlebium reversed.
- PHLEBIOPHYLLUM van den Bosch: Gr. phleps, vein + phyllon, leaf. The veins of the frond are prominent.
- PHLEBODIUM (R.Brown) J.Smith: Gr. phlebodes, full of veins. The veins of the frond are much-branched.
- PHLEGMARIURUS (Herter) Holub: a name based on the epithet of Lycopodium phlegmaria L. + Gr. oura, tail. The Greek ending is in allusion to the tassel-like fertile portions of the plant.
- PHOROBOLUS Desvaux: Gr. phorein, to bear + lobos, lobe. The fronds are finely and pinnately lobed.
- PHOTINOPTERIS J.Smith: Gr. photeinos, shining + pterus, fern. The original specimen may have appeared especially shiny.

- PHYLLITIS Hill: Gr. phylon, leaf. This was the ancient Greek name for the hart's-tongue fern, in allusion to the fact that the plant bore no fruits but only leaves. The name Phyllitis by Ludwig, Moench, and Rafinesque no doubt had similar derivations.
- PHYLLOGLOSSUM Kunze: Gr. phylon, leaf + glossa, tongue. The leaves are narrowly tongue-shaped.
- PHYMATODES Presl: Gr. phmatos, swelling, pustule + odes, like. Alludes to the swellings on the abaxial surfaces of the fertile fronds, or the swollen stipe bases.
- PHYMATOPSIS J.Smith: Phymatodes + Gr. opsis, like. Resembling Phymatodes.
- PHYMATOPTERIS Pichi Sermolli: Phymatodes + Gr. pterus, fern. As the preceding.
- PHYMATOSORUS Pichi Sermolli: Phymatodes + Gr. soros. With sori like those of Phymatodes.
- PHYSEMATIUM Kaulfuss: Gr. physemaion, little bubble. The indusium is inflated and globose.
- PILLULARIA Linnaeus corr. Willdenow: = Pilularia.
- PILULARIA Linnaeus: L. pilula, little ball + substantival suffix. The sporocarps are globose.
- PINONIA Gaudichaud: named for some unknown associate.
- PITYOGRAMMA Link: Gr. pityron, scurf, bran + gramme, line. The lower surface of the frond is covered with a scurfy white or yellow farina, and the sporangia are in lines along the veins.
- PLAGIOCYRIA (Kunze) Mettenius: Gr. plagios, oblique, sloping + gyros, circle, ring. The annulus of the sporangium is oblique.
- PLANANTHUS Palisot Beauv.: Gr. planos, indefinite, vagrant + anthos, flower. The sporophylls are not aggregated into strobili.
- PLATYCELIUM Desvoux: Gr. platys, flat + keras, horn. The fronds are flattened and antler-like.
- PLATYLOMA J.Smith: Gr. platys, broad, flat + loma, border. The sorus is marginal, continuous, and broad.
- PLATYTAENIA Kuhn: Gr. platys, broad, flat + taenia, ribbon. Alludes to the shape of the sterile fronds.
- PLATYZOMA R.Brown: Gr. platys, broad, flat + zoma, belt, girdle. Refers to the annulus of the sporangium.
- PLECOSORUS Fée: Gr. plekos, basket + soros. The sori are hidden beneath the reflexed leaf margin.
- PLECTOPTERIS Fée: Gr. plektos, folded, pleated + pterus, fern. The lower half of each segment or pinna is folded backward to protect the sorus.
- PLENASIUM Presl: an anagram of Asplenium, meant to imply relationship to that genus.
- PLEOCNEMIA Presl: Gr. pleos, full + knemia, ray, spoke of a wheel. The free included veinlets radiate in all directions.
- PLEOPELTIS Humboldt & Bonpland ex Willdenow: Gr. pleos, full, abundant + pelte, shield. The young sori have abundant peltate paraphyses.
- PLESIONEURON (Holtum) Holtum: Gr. plesios, near + neuron, vein. The basal basiscopic vein always arises close to the costule (Holtum pers. comm.).
- PLEURIDIUM (Presl) Fée: Gr. pleuron, rib + idion, a diminutive suffix. The sorus attachment is to one side of the veinlet.
- PLEURODERRIS Maxon: Gr. pleuron, rib + derris, hide, fur. Alludes to the lateral attachment and position of the indusium.
- PLEUROFOSSA Nakai ex H.Itô: Gr. pleuron, rib + fossa, ditch, trench. The sori are inserted in a furrow on either side of the costa.
- PLEUROGONIUM (Presl) Lindley: Gr. pleuron, rib + gonia, angle. The smaller veins curve to meet the costa.
- PLEUROGRAMMA (Blume) Presl corr. J.Smith: = Pleurogramme.
- PLEUROGRAMME (Blume) Presl: Gr. pleuron, rib + gramme, line. The coenosorus forms a continuous line along the midrib.
- PLEUROGANES (Presl) Presl: Gr. pleuron, rib + manes, cup. Presl was probably referring to the position of the cup-like sori beside the costa.
- PLEUROSORIOPSIS Fomin: Pleurosorus + Gr. opsis, like.
- PLEUROSORUS Fée: Gr. pleuron, rib + soros. The sporangia are attached at the side of the veinlet.
- PNEUMATOPTERIS Nakai: Gr. pneuma, air, breath + pterus, fern. The stipe and pinnule bases bear pneumatophores.
- PODELEMA R.Brown ex Wallich: Gr. pous, foot + cilema, cover. The indusium is stalked.
- PODOPELTIS Fée: Gr. pous, foot + pelte, shield. The indusium is shield-shaped and stalked.
- PODOSORUS Holtum: Gr. pous, foot + soros. The sori are stalked.
- POECILOPTERIS Presl: Gr. poikilos, spotted, variegated + pterus, fern. The pale veins contrast with the rest of the blade.
- POLKILOPTERIS Eschweiler: as the preceding.
- POLYAENIUM Desvoux, in error: = Polytaenium.
- POLYBOTRYA Humboldt & Bonpland ex Willdenow: Gr. poly, many + botrys, bunch, cluster. The sporangia are clustered on the skeletonized fertile fronds.
- POLYCAMPIMUM Presl: Gr. poly, many + kampe, a bending or arching. The primary and secondary veins are strongly arcuate.
- POLYCOCCA Hill: Gr. poly, many + kokkos, berry. Bearing many megaspores.
- POLYDICTYUM Presl: Gr. poly, many + diktyon, net. The veins are finely netted.
- POLYGRAMMA Presl: Gr. poly, many + gramme, line. The sporangia are in numerous lines on the pinnae.
- POLYPHLEBIUM Copeland: Gr. poly, many + phleps, vein. There are several veinlets in each frond segment.
- POLYPODIOPSIS Copeland: Polypodium + Gr. opsis, like.
- POLYPODIOPTERIS Reed: Polypodium + Gr. pterus, fern. As the preceding.
- POLYPODIUM Linnaeus: Gr. poly, many + podion, foot. The highly branching rhizome resembles many feet.
- POLYSTICHOPSIS (J.Smith) Holtum: Polystichum + Gr. opsis, like.
- POLYSTICHUM Roth: Gr. poly, many + stichos, row. The sori of the type species are in many regular rows on the pinnae.
- POLYTAENIUM Desvoux: Gr. poly, many + taenia, ribbon. alludes to the shape of the fronds.
- POMATOPHYTUM M.E.Jones: Gr. pomatos, cover + phyton, plant. Reflexed leaf margin forms a false indusium.
- PORPAEA Presl ex Ettingshausen: Gr. porpe, brooch. Presumably alludes to the shape of the indusium.
- PRESLIA Opiz: named for K.B.Presl, 1794-1852, noted pteridologist of Prague.
- PRIONOPTERIS Wallich: Gr. prion, saw + pterus, fern. The medial segment of the frond is serrate along both margins.
- PROPERA Presl: Gr. properes, excelling. The single species is P. excellens.
- PRONEPHRIUM Presl: Gr. pro, before, in front of + nephros, kidney. The reniform indusia cover the sori.
- PROSAPTIA Presl: Gr. prosaptiein, to insert, immerse. The sori appear embedded in the frond margin.
- PROTANGILOPTERIS Hayata: Gr. protos, early, first + Angiopteris. A primitive Angiopteris.
- PROTOLINDSAYA Copeland: Gr. protos, early, first + Lindsaea. Like a primitive Lindsaea.
- PROTOMARATTIA Hayata: Gr. protos, early, first + Marattia. Thought to resemble a primitive Marattia.
- PROTOWOODSIA Ching: Gr. protos, early, first + Woodsia. Like ancestor of or a primitive Woodsia.
- PSAMMIOSORUS Christensen: Gr. psammos, sand + soros. The sori are placed irregularly among the veins like sand grains.
- PSEUDATHYRIUM Newman: Gr. pseudos, false + Athyrium.
- PSEUDOCOLYSIS Gómez: Gr. pseudos, false + Colysis.
- PSEUDOCYCLOSORUS Ching: Gr. pseudos, false + Cyclosorus.
- PSEUDOCYSTOPTERIS Ching: Gr. pseudos, false + Cystopteris.
- PSEUDODRYNARIA Christensen: Gr. pseudos, false + Drynaria.
- PSEUDOPHEGopteris Ching: Gr. pseudos, false + Phegopteris.
- PSEUDOTECTARIA Tardieu: Gr. pseudos, false + Tectaria.
- PSIPODIUM Necker: considered intermediate between Aspidium and Polypodium.
- PSILODOCHIA Presl: Gr. psilos, naked, smooth + doche, holder, receptacle. The synangium is without an indusium.
- PSILOGRAMME Kuhn emend. Underwood: Gr. psilos, naked, smooth + gramme, line. The sori are exindusiate.
- PSILOTUM Swartz: Gr. psilos, naked, smooth. The aerial stems smooth and leafless, bearing naked sporangia.
- PSOMIOPARPA Presl: Gr. psomion, small pellets fed to poultry + karpos, fruit. The fertile pinnules are pellet-like in form.
- PSYGMIMUM Presl: Gr. psygmon, fan. The fronds are fan-shaped.
- PTERETIS Rafinesque: a name coined to resemble Pteris.
- PTERIDANETIUM Copeland: Gr. pterus, fern + Anetium. A substitute name for Anetium, as that name was thought to be invalid.

- PTERIDELLA Mettenius ex Kuhn: Pteris + L. ella, a diminutive suffix. Like a small Pteris.
- PTERIDIUM Gleditsch ex Scopoli; also Rafinesque: Gr. pteridion, a small fern.
- PTERIDOBLECHNUM Hennipman: Gr. pteron, wing + Blechnum. A blechnoid fern with winged stipe and rachis.
- PTERIDRYS Christensen & Ching: The genus has the height and venation of Pteris quadriaurita and the stelar structure, sori, and indusia of Dryopteris filix-mas.
- PTERIGLYPHIS Fée: Gr. pterus, fern + glyptein, to etch. Sori and veins present an etched aspect in relief.
- PTERILIS Rafinesque: Pteris + L. ilis, suffix indicating property or quality of. A fern like Pteris.
- PTERINODES Siegesbeck ex O.Kuntze: pterinos, feathery.
- PTERIS Linnaeus; also Gleditsch ex Scopoli: Gr. pteron, wing, feather. An ancient Greek name for ferns in general, derived from a resemblance of the pinnae to wings or feathers.
- PTEROMANES Pichi Sermolli: Gr. pteron, wing + manes, cup. Accessory wings on the veins are in a plane different from that of the frond surface; 'manes' indicates relationship to Trichomanes.
- PTERONEVRON Fée: Gr. pteron, wing + neuron, vein. The veins are dilated or winged.
- PTEROPSIS Desvaux: Gr. pteron, wing + opsis, like.
- PTEROZONIUM Fée: Gr. pterus, fern + zone, belt. The frond has a broad submarginal confluent band of sori.
- PTILOPHYLLUM van den Bosch: Gr. ptilon, feather + phylon, leaf. The fronds are feather-like.
- PTILOPTERIS Hance: Gr. ptilon, feather + pterus, fern. As in the preceding.
- PTYCHOMANES Hedwig: Gr. ptychos, a fold + manes, cup. The indusium is cup-like and appears folded.
- PTYCHOPHYLLUM Presl: Gr. ptychos, a fold + phylon, leaf. The secondary pinnules are folded longitudinally.
- PYCNODORIA Presl: Gr. pyknos, thick + dora, skin, hide. The fronds are coriaceous.
- PYCNOLOMA Christensen: Gr. pyknos thick + loma, border. The fronds have thickened borders.
- PYCNOPTERIS Moore: Gr. pyknos, thick + pterus, fern. The fronds are leathery in texture.
- PYRHOSIA Mirbel corr. Farwell: = Pyrrosia.
- PYRROSIA Mirbel: Gr. pyr, fire. Alludes to the tawny indumentum of the type species.
- PYRRHOZIA Mirbel corr. Underwood: = Pyrrosia.
- PYXIDARIA Gleditsch: Gr. pyxis, box + aris, resembling. The indusium is like a small box.
- QUERCIFILIX Copeland: Quercus, oak + L. filix, fern. The sterile fronds are like oak leaves.
- RAGATELUS Presl: Gr. rhagas, a rent, split + telos, end. Presl thought that the receptacle was bifid.
- RAGIOPTERIS Presl: Gr. ragios, berry + pterus, fern. The fertile pinnules are bead-like.
- RAMONDIA Mirbel: named for Louis François E. Ramond, Baron de Carbonnière, 1753-1827, a French botanist.
- REEDIELLA Pichi Sermolli: named for Clyde F. Reed, 1918- , American botanist.
- REGNELLIDIUM Lindman: named for André Frederick Regnell, 1807-1884, Swedish botanist who discovered many new plants in Brazil.
- RHACHIDOSORUS Ching: Gr. rhachis, axis of a compound leaf, + soros. Allusion unknown.
- RHEOPTERIS Alston: Gr. rheos, stream + pterus, fern. The fern was discovered on the trunk of a fallen tree along a stream.
- RHIPIOPTERIS Schott ex Fée: Gr. hipis, fan + pterus, fern. The fronds are flabellate and digitately divided.
- RHIZOETES D.Meyer ex Rauh: Gr., rhiza, root + Isoetes. An Isoetes with a distinct rhizome.
- RHIZOGLOSSUM Presl: Gr. rhiza, root + glossa, tongue. Presl does not explain, but the name perhaps alludes to the shape of the fronds, which could be considered root-like or tongue-like.
- RHIZOPHYLLUM Newman: Gr. rhiza, root + phylon, leaf. The fronds are sessile on the rhizome.
- RHIZOSPERMA Meyen: Gr. rhiza, root + sperma, seed. The sporangia arise near the rhizome of the plant.
- RIEDLEA Mirbel: named for Anselme Riedle (d. 1801), who collected plants in the E & W Indies & Australia.
- RIPIDIUM Bernhardt: Gr. rhipidion, small fan. Alludes to the shape of the fronds.
- ROSENSTOCKIA Copeland: named for Edward Rosenstock, 1856-1938, Swedish pteridologist.
- RUMHORA Raddi corr. Desvaux: = Rumohra.
- RUMOHRA Raddi: named for Karl F. von Rumohr, 1785-1843, of Dresden, Germany, a student of art.
- RUTAMURARIA Ortega: L. ruta, rue (Rutaceae) + murarius, of walls. A fern with dissected, rue-like fronds which grows on walls and masonry.
- SACCOLOMA Kaulfuss: L. saccus, bag + Gr. loma, border. The sori are marginal and are located in sac-like depressions.
- SADLERIA Kaulfuss: named for Joseph Sadler, 1791-1849, professor of botany at Budapest and student of the flora of Hungary.
- SAFFORDIA Maxon: named for William Edwin Safford, 1859-1926, economic botanist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture and student of Datura (Solanaceae).
- SAGENIA Presl: L. sagena, seine, fish-net. Alludes to the appearance of the veinlet anastomoses, which are arcuate and angular.
- SAGENOPTERIS Trevisan: Sagenia + Gr. pterus, fern. Resembling Sagenia.
- SALPICHLAENA J.Smith: Gr. salpinx, pipe, trumpet + chlaena, cloak. The indusium appears tubular and conspicuous.
- SALPIGLAENA J.Smith corr. Klotzsch: = Salpichlaena.
- SALPINCHLAENA J.Smith corr. Presl: = Salpichlaena.
- SALVINIA Seguier: also Micheli in Adanson: named for Antonio Maria Salvini, 1633-1729, an Italian professor of Greek who helped Micheli with his botanical work.
- SAMBIRANIA Tardieu: named for the Sambirano River in Madagascar where the fern grows.
- SAXIGLOSSUM Ching: L. saxum, stone + Gr. glossa, tongue. A fern with strap-like fronds which grows on rocks.
- SCEPTRIDIUM Lyon: L. sceptrum, sceptre + idium, a diminutive suffix. The sporangia are borne on a wand-like stalk from the base of the frond.
- SCHAFFNERIA Fée ex Moore: named for Wilhelm H.J. Schaffner, 1830-1882, a German pharmacist who collected plants in Mexico.
- SCHELLIOLEPIS J.Smith: Gr. skellein, to wither + lepis, scale. The scales wither very early.
- SCHIZAEA J.F.Smith: Gr. schizein, to split. The fan-shaped fronds are split into narrow lobes.
- SCHIZEA J.E.Smith corr. Rafinesque: = Schizaea.
- SCHIZOCAENA J.Smith ex Hooker: Gr. schizein, to split + kainos, new. A new genus with a globose indusium which splits into petal-like parts.
- SCHIZOGRAMMA Link: Gr. schizein, to split + gramme, line. Presumably alludes to the forking lines of sori.
- SCHIZOLEGNIA Alston: Gr. schizein, to split + legnon, border. With a split or lobed border.
- SCHIZOLEPTON Fée: Gr. schizein, to split + leptos, slender, delicate. The grooves with the sporangia resemble narrow slits.
- SCHIZOLOMA Gaudichaud: Gr. schizein, to split + loma, border. The sporangia are located in clefts along the margin.
- SCHIZOPTERIS Hillebrand: Gr. schizein, to split + Pteris. Like Pteris but supposedly with a discontinuous marginal false indusium.
- SCHIZOSTEGE Hillebrand: Gr. schizein, to split + stega, cover. The marginal false indusium is discontinuous as compared with Pteris.
- SCHIZOSTEGOPSIS Copeland: Schizostega + Gr. opsis, like.
- SCHIZOSTEGOPSIS Copeland: = Schizostegeopsis.
- SCIPHOFILIX Thouars: = Scyphofilix.
- SCLEROGLOSSUM v.A.v.R.: Gr. skleros, hard + glossa, tongue. The fronds are strap-shaped and leathery.
- SCOLIOSORUS Moore: Gr. skolios, curved, tortuous + soros. The sori are linear and more or less sinuous.
- SCOLOPENDRIUM Adanson: Gr. skolopendra, centipede. Alludes to the resemblance of the two rows of regularly arranged linear sori on the abaxial surface of the frond to the many feet of a centipede.
- SCYPHOFILIX Thouars: Gr. skyphos, cup + L. filix, fern. The indusium is cup-shaped.
- SCYPHOLEPTA J.Smith: Gr. skyphos, cup + lepis, scale. Refers to the goblet-like indusium.
- SCYPHOPTERIS Rafinesque: Gr. skyphos, cup + pterus, fern. As the preceding.
- SCYPHULARIA Fée: Gr. skyphos, cup + aris, resembling. As in Scypholepia.
- SCYTOPTERIS Presl: Gr. skytos, hide, leather + pterus, fern. The fronds have a leathery texture.
- SELAGINEA Batsch: adjectival form from Selago.
- SELAGINELLA Palisot Beauv.: Selago + L. ella, a diminutive suffix. Like a small Selago.
- SELAGO Hill; also R.Brown, Boehmer, Schur: L. selago, clubmoss (Lycopodium).



- SELENODESMIUM (Prantl) Copeland: Gr. selene, moon + desme, bundle, handful. Alludes to the closely spaced, semilunar frond lobes.
- SELLIGUEA Bory: named for M. Selligie, a French optician and instrument-maker.
- SERPYPLOPSIS van den Bosch: L. serpyllum, thyme + Gr. opsis, like. A fern resembling thyme (*Thymus*, Labiatae).
- SINEPHROPTERIS Mickel: L. sina, China + Gr. nephros, kidney + pterus, fern. A Chinese fern with kidney-shaped fronds.
- SINOPTERIS Christensen & Ching: L. sina, China + Gr. pterus, fern. A fern from China.
- SITOBOLIUM Desvoux: Gr. sitos, grain + bolos, lump. The sori resemble grains of wheat or barley.
- SITOLOBIUM Desvoux corr. J. Smith: = Sitobolium. Smith thought that Desvoux had misspelled the name.
- SIVETES Rafinesque: a name coined to resemble Isoetes.
- SIVATEA Rafinesque: = Sivetes.
- SOLANOPTERIS Copeland corr. Copeland: Solanum (Solanaceae) + pterus, fern. The fern has potato-like swellings on the rhizomes which are inhabited by ants.
- SOLENOPTERIS Copeland: = Solanopteris.
- SOLENOPTERIS Wallich; also Zenker ex Kunze: Gr. solen, channel, pipe + pterus, fern. The sporangia are in a canal on the leaf surface.
- SOROLEPIDIUM Christ: Gr. soros + lepidion, small scale. Alludes to the indusial scales at the base of the sorus.
- SOROFANES Fée: Gr. soros + manes, mania? or cup. "Ferns with a very strong tendency to get loaded with sporangia" (Fée 1852).
- SPATHEPTERIS Presl: Gr. spathe, blade + pterus, fern. Allusion unknown.
- SPHAEROCIONIUM Presl: Gr. sphaera, sphere + kionion, small column. The sporangia are borne on a small pedicel.
- SPHAEROPTERIS Bernhardt: Gr. sphaera, sphere + pterus, fern. Alludes to the globose sori.
- SPHAEROSTEPHANOS J. Smith: Gr. sphaera, sphere + stephanos, crown. The sori have a central pseudo-indusium bearing numerous spherical bodies at its apex.
- SPHAEROSTICHUM Presl: Gr. sphaera, sphere + stichos, row, line. The globose sori are in rows.
- SPHENOMERIS Maxon: Gr. sphen, wedge + meris, part. Refers to the cuneate ultimate segments.
- SPHEROLDEA Dulac: Gr. sphaeria, sphere + oides, like. The sporocarps are rounded.
- SPICANTA Presl: Dutch spicant, the common name for Blechnum spicant.
- SPICANTOPSIS Nakai: Spicanta + Gr. opsis, like.
- STACHYGYNANDRUM Palisot Beauv.: Gr. stachys, spike + gyn, female + andros, male. The strobili bear both micro- and megasporangia.
- STEGANIA R. Brown: Gr. steganos, covered. The lower surface of the fertile frond is completely covered with sporangia.
- STENOGRAMMA Blume; also Fournier: Gr. stegos, cover + gramme, line. The sporangia are numerous and entirely cover the primary veins of the frond.
- STEROPTERIS (Christensen) Pichi Sermolli: Gr. steira, keel + pterus, fern. There is a keeled false vein running from the sinus between the lobes toward the midvein.
- STENOCHLAENA J. Smith: Gr. stenos, narrow + chlaena, cloak. The fertile pinnae are narrow with involute margins.
- STENOCHLAMYS Griffith: Gr. stenos, narrow + chlamys, cloak. Perhaps having a narrow indusium.
- STENOFILIX Nakai: Gr. stenos, narrow + L. filix, fern.
- STENOLEPIS v.A.v.R.: Gr. stenos, narrow + lepis, scale. The stipe scales are irregular and narrow.
- STENOLOBUS Presl: Gr. stenos, narrow + lobos, lobe or pod. The fronds are often finely lobed, and it is to this that the name probably alludes, although Presl (1836) gives the derivation as "stenos, narrow + lobos, indumentum."
- STENOLOHA Fée: Gr. stenos, narrow + loma, border. There is very little laminar tissue between the midvein and leaf margin.
- STENOSEHIA Presl: Gr. stenos, narrow + semion, flag. All portions of the rachis and costae are winged.
- STIBASIA Presl: Gr. stibas, cushion, nest. There is a small cushion of tissue beneath the synangium.
- STICHERUS Presl: Gr. stichos, line, row. The sori are borne in rows.
- STIGMATOPTERIS Christensen: Gr. stigmatos, punctate + pterus, fern. The fronds have internal glands which make them appear punctate.
- STORMESIA Kickx f.: named for Vilhelm Ferdinand Storm, 1835-1913, of Norway.
- STROMATOPTERIS Mettenius: Gr. stromatos, bed, mattress + pterus, fern. The sporangia lie in a discoid or pulviniform receptacle.
- STRUTHIOPTERIS Scopoli: also Weis, Willdenow, Bernhardt: L. struthio, ostrich + Gr. pterus, fern. The fronds resemble ostrich plumes.
- STYLITES E. Amstutz emend. Rauh: Gr. stylites, column-sitter. The crown is perched on a massive caudex.
- SYMPHLEBIUM Fée: Gr. sym, together + phleps, vein. The veins form a network.
- SYNAMMIA Presl: Gr. syn, together + ammatos, knot, loop. The veins form a row of costal areoles.
- SYNAPHEBIUM J. Smith: Gr. synaphe, connection, union + phleps, vein. The veins of the sterile fronds are confluent.
- SYNEURON J. Smith: Gr. syn, together + neuron, vein. Alludes to the anastomosing veins.
- SYNGRAMMA J. Smith: Gr. syn, together + gramme, line. The sori are in lines along the anastomosing veins.
- SYNGRAMMATOPSIS Alston: Syngamma + Gr. opsis, like.
- SYNOCHLAMYS Fée: Gr. synochos, joined + chlamys, cloak. The involute pinna margins forming the false indusia are so broad that they meet along the midvein.
- TAENIOPSIS J. Smith: Gr. taenia, ribbon, band + opsis, like. Refers to the frond shape.
- TAENIOPTERIS Hooker: Gr. taenia, ribbon, band + pterus, fern. As in the preceding.
- TAENIUS Willdenow ex Schkuhr: Gr. taenia, ribbon, band. The pinnae are long and ribbon-like.
- TAPEINIDIUM (Presl) Christensen: Gr. tapeinos, small, dwarf + idium, a diminutive suffix. Allusion unknown since it is not especially small.
- TARACHIA Presl: Gr. tarache, trouble, disorder. The characteristics of the sorus and indusium are highly variable.
- TASCHNERIA Presl: named for Alexejewitch Taschner, 1817-1836, doctor at Bisenach, Germany and student of Trichomanes.
- TECTARIA Cavanilles: L. tectum, roof + aria, a substantive suffix. Alludes to the roof-like indusium in some species.
- TECTARIDIUM Copeland: Tectaria + Gr. idium, a diminutive suffix. A small Tectaria-like plant.
- TEGULARIA Reinwardt: L. tegula, roofing tile + Gr. aris, a substantive suffix. Pertains to the appearance of the indusium.
- TELEZOZIA R. Brown: Gr. teleos, perfect, entire + zoma, belt, girdle. Probably refers to the complete annulus of the sporangium.
- TERATOPHYLLUM Mettenius ex Kuhn: Gr. teras, mutant + phyllon, leaf. The fronds on a given plant are of three types: specialized basal leaves, upright sterile fronds, and fertile fronds.
- TETRALASMA Phillipi: Gr. tetra, four + elasma, thin plate. The fronds are four-parted into thin plates.
- THAMNOPTERIS (Presl) Presl: Gr. thamnos, bush, thicket + pterus, fern. The fronds of these epiphytes present a bush-like growth.
- THAYERIA Copeland: named for Alfred Thayer, professor at the University of Texas.
- THELIPTERIS Schmidel corr. Rafinesque: = Thelypteris.
- THELYPTERIS Adanson; also Schmidel, Schott: Gr. thelys, female + pterus, fern. An old Greek name for a fern more delicate than the male fern, Dryopteris filix-mas.
- THYLACOPTERIS Kunze ex J. Smith: Gr. thylakos, bag, pouch + pterus, fern. The sori are sunken into crypts on the lower surface of the frond.
- THYRSOPTERIS Kunze: Gr. thyrsos, bunch + pterus, fern. The sori are arranged in grape-like clusters intermixed with leafy portions of the frond.
- THYSANOBOTRYS v.A.v.R.: a genus with characters of Thysanosoria and Polybotrya.
- THYSANOSORIA Gepp: Gr. thysanos, fringe + soros. The sori form fringes on the fertile pinnae.
- TMESOPTERIS Bernhardt emend. Kunze: = Tmesipteris.
- TMESIPTERIS Bernhardt: Gr. tmesis, a cutting or dividing + pterus, fern. The plant has split or notched sporophylls.

TODEA Willdenow ex Bernhardi: named for Heinrich Julius Tode, 1733-1797, a mycologist from Mecklenburg, Germany and a preacher at Pritzler.

TOPPINGIA O. & I. Degener & A.R. Smith: named for David Leroy Topping, 1861-1939, plant collector, mainly in the Philippines and Hawaii.

TOXOPTERIS Trevisan: Gr. toxon, bow + pteris, fern. Probably alludes to the curved veins of the frond.

TRACHYPREMNON Lindig: Gr. trachys, rough + premon, trunk, stump. A tree fern with a rough trunk.

TRACHYPTERIS André ex Christ: Gr. trachys, rough + pteris, fern. The paleae covering the fronds give them a rough texture.

TRIBLEMA (J. Smith) Ching: Gr. tri, three + blemma, glance, appearance. Allusion unknown.

TRICHIOCARPA (Hooker) J. Smith: Gr. trichion, diminutive of thrix, hair + karpos, fruit. The sorus is borne on a hair-like pedicel.

TRICHIOGRAMME Kuhn: Gr. trichion, small hair + gramme, line. The sporangia are in lines along the veins and mixed with paraphyses.

TRICHIPTERIS Presl: Gr. thrix, hair + pteris, fern. The sori have dense persistent paraphyses.

TRICHOCALYMA Zenker ex Kunze: Gr. thrix, hair + kalymma, veil. Allusion unknown.

TRICHOCYCLUS Dulac: Gr. thrix, hair + kyklos, circle. The sori are round and early surrounded by hairs.

TRICHOMANES Linnaeus; also Hill: Gr. thrix, hair + manes, cup. Alludes to the hair-like receptacle extending from the cup-like involucre.

TRICHONEURON Ching: Gr. thrix, hair + neuron, vein. The veins of the frond are distinctly hairy.

TRICHOPTERIS Presl corr. Sprengel: = Trichipteris.

TRICHOSORUS Liebmann: Gr. thrix, hair + soros. The sori have abundant hairs.

TRIGONOPHYLLUM (Prantl) Pichi Sermolli: Gr. tri, three + gonia, angle + phyllon, leaf. The leaves are triangular.

TRIGONOSPORA Holttum: Gr. tri, three + gonia, angle + spora, spore. The spores are trilete, unique in the thelypterid ferns.

TRIPHLEBIA Baker: Gr. tri, three + phleps, vein. With three prominent veins.

TRISMERIA Fée: Gr. tris, thrice + meris, part. The pinnae are trifid or trifoliate.

TRISPERMIUM Hill: Gr. tri, three + sperma, seed. The megasporangium contains only three megaspores instead of the usual four.

TRISTECA Palisot Beauv.: Gr. tri, three + theke, box. Alludes to the trilocular sporangium.

TROCHOPTERIS Gardner: Gr. trochos, wheel + fern, fern. The small fronds form a rosette.

TROGOSTOLON Copeland: Gr. trogos, caterpillar + stolon, branch, shoot. Refers to the bristly rhizome.

TRYONELLA Pichi Sermolli: named for Rolla Milton Tryon, Jr., 1916- , U.S. pteridologist at Harvard Univ.

UGENA Cavanilles: named for D. Emanuel Mugnoz de Ugena, 1739-1796, botanical artist of Madrid, Spain.

UROSTACHYS Herter: Gr. oura, tail + stachys, spike. The author does not explain this name, but the cones are often pendulous.

VAGINULARIA Fée: L. vaginula, small sheath + arius, adjectival suffix. The sporangia are borne in a sheathing groove which opens along the costa.

VALLIFILIX Thouars: Etymology unsure but possibly from S. Indian and Sanskrit valli, ivy, climbing plant + filix, fern, as this fern is scandent.

VANDENBOSCHIA Copeland: named for Roelof van den Bosch, 1810-1862, Dutch pteridologist and student of the filmy ferns.

VISCUM Blume: L. viscum, mistletoe, bird-lime. Allusion unknown.

VITTARIA J. Smith: L. vitta, ribbon, stripe + aris, resembling. The fronds are narrow and ribbon-like.

WAGNERIPTERIS Löve & Love: named for Warren Herbert Wagner, Jr., U.S. pteridologist at the Univ. of Michigan.

WEATHERBYA Copeland: named for Charles Alfred Weatherby, 1875-1949, U.S. pteridologist at Harvard University.

WIBELIA Bernhardi; also Fée: named for August Wilhelm E.C. Wibel, 1775-1814, author of a flora of Wertheim, Germany.

WOODSIA R. Brown: named for Joseph Woods, 1776-1864, British architect and author of A Tourist's Flora.

WOODWARDIA J.E. Smith: named for Thomas Jenkinson Woodward, 1745-1820, British phycologist.

XIPHOPTERIS Kaulfuss: Gr. xiphos, sword + pteris, fern.

The fronds are sword-shaped.

XYROPTERIS Kramer: Gr. xyron, razor + pteris, fern. The acroscopic sides of the pinnae bear long, sharp auricles.

ZALUSIANSKIA Necker: = Zaluzianskya.

ZALUZIANSKIA Necker: = Zaluzianskya.

ZALUZIANSKYA Necker ex O. Kuntze: named for Adam Zaluziansky von Zaluzian, 1558-1613, of Prague, Czechoslovakia.

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 HOLUB, Josef, 1930- , Czech botanist  
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 KEYSERLING, Alexander von, 1815-1891, Russian botanist  
 KICKX, Jean Jr., 1803-1864, Belgian botanist  
 KLOTZSCH, Johann Friedrich, 1805-1860, German botanist  
 KOIDZUMI, Gen-Iti, 1883-1953, Japanese botanist  
 KRAMER, Karl U., 1928- , Dutch/Swiss pteridologist  
 KUMMERLE, Jenő Bela, 1876-1931, Hungarian botanist  
 KUHN, Maximilian, 1842-1894, German pteridologist  
 KUNTZE, C.E.Otto, 1843-1907, German botanist  
 KUNZE, Gustav, 1793-1851, German botanist  
 LAGASCA y Segura, Mariano, 1776-1839, Spanish botanist  
 LAMARCK, J.B.A.P.M. de, 1744-1829, French biologist  
 LANGSDORFF, Georg H. von, 1774-1852, German naturalist  
 LELLINGER, David Bruce, 1937- , American pteridologist  
 LÉMAN, Dominique S., 1781-1829, French botanist  
 LÉVELLÉ, A.A.H., 1863-1918, French botanist/clergyman  
 L'HERITIER de Brutelle, C.L., 1746-1800, French botanist  
 LIEBMANN, Frederik Michael, 1813-1856, Danish botanist  
 LINDIG, Alexander, (1859-1863 in Bogota, Colombia)  
 LINDLEY, John, 1799-1865, British botanist  
 LINDMAN, Carl A.M., 1856-1928, Swedish botanist  
 LINK, Johann H.F., 1767-1851, German botanist  
 LINNAEUS, Carol, 1707-1778, Swedish naturalist  
 LÖVE, Aska, 1916- , American botanist  
 LÖVE, Doris, 1918- , American botanist  
 LUDWIG, Christian G., 1709-1773, German botanist  
 LUERSSEN, Christian, 1843-1916, German botanist  
 LYON, Harold Lloyd, 1879-1957, American botanist  
 MAKINO, Tomitaro, 1862-1957, Japanese botanist  
 MANETTI, Xaverio, 1723-1785, Italian botanist  
 MARTENS, Martin, 1797-1863, Belgian botanist  
 MARTIUS, Carl F.P. von, 1794-1868, German botanist  
 MASAMUNE, Genkai, 1899- , Japanese botanist  
 MAXON, William Ralph, 1877-1948, American pteridologist  
 MENZIES, Archibald, 1754-1842, British Scottish botanist  
 MERINO y Román, Baltasar, 1845-1917, Spanish botanist  
 METTENIUS, Georg H., 1823-1866, German pteridologist  
 MEYER, Franz J.F., 1804-1840, Prussian botanist  
 MEYER, Carl Anton von, 1795-1855, Russian botanist  
 MEYER, Dieter E., 1926-1982, German pteridologist  
 MICHAUX, André, 1746-1803, French-American botanist  
 MICHELI, Marc, 1844-1902, Swiss botanist  
 MICKEL, John Thomas, 1934- , American pteridologist  
 MILDE, Carl August Julius, 1824-1871, German botanist  
 MIRBEL, Charles F.B. de, 1776-1854, French botanist  
 MOENCH, Conrad, 1744-1805, German botanist  
 MOLINA, Giovanni I., 1737-1829, Chilean botanist/priest  
 MOMOSE, S., 1906- , Japanese botanist  
 MOORE, Thomas, 1821-1887, British botanist  
 MORTON, Conrad Vernon, 1905-1972, American pteridologist  
 NAKAI, Takenoshin, 1882-1952, Japanese botanist  
 NAKAIKE, Toshiyuki, 1943- , Japanese botanist  
 NARONHA  
 NAYAR, B.K., Indian pteridologist  
 NECKER, Noël Joseph de, 1730-1793, French/German botanist  
 NEWMAN, Edward, 1801-1876, British pteridologist  
 OPIZ, Philipp Maximilian, 1787-1858, Czech botanist  
 ORTEGA, Pablo, Chilean botanist  
 PALISOT-BEAUVOIS, A.M.F.J. de, 1752-1820, French naturalist  
 PHILIPPI, Rudolf Amandus, 1808-1904, German  
 PICHI SERMOLLI, Rodolfo E.G., 1912- , Italian pteridologist  
 PRANTL, Karl A.E., 1849-1893, German botanist  
 PRESL, Karel B., 1794-1852, Czech pteridologist  
 RADDI, J., 1770-1829, Italian/Brazilian botanist  
 RAFINESQUE, Constantine S., 1783-1840, French naturalist  
 RAUH, Werner, 1913- , German botanist  
 REED, Clyde F., 1918- , American naturalist  
 REGEL, Eduard A. von, 1815-1892, German/Russian botanist  
 REICHENBACH, H.G., 1824-1889, German botanist  
 REINWARDT, C.C., 1773-1854, German/Dutch botanist  
 RICHARD, Louis C.M., 1754-1821, French botanist  
 ROEMER, Johann Jacob, 1763-1819, Swiss botanist  
 ROJAS Acosta, Nicolás  
 ROSENSTOCK, Eduard, 1856-1938, Swedish botanist  
 ROTH, Albrecht W., 1757-1834, German pteridologist  
 ROTHALER, Werner, 1908-1962, German botanist  
 SADEBECK, Richard E.B., 1839-1905, German pteridologist  
 SAKURAI  
 SCHAFFNER, John H., 1866-1939, American botanist  
 SCHUHR, Christian, 1741-1811, German botanist  
 SCHLECHTENDAL, D.F.L. von, 1794-1866, German botanist  
 SCHMIDEL, Casimir C., 1718-1792, German botanist  
 SCHOTT, Heinrich W., 1794-1865, Austrian pteridologist  
 SCHRADER, Heinrich A., 1767-1836, German botanist  
 SCHREBER, Johann C.D., 1739-1810, German botanist  
 SCHUR, F.J.F., 1799-1878, German botanist  
 SCOPOLI, Giovanni A., 1723-1788, Italian naturalist  
 SEGUIER, Jean François, 1703-1784, French botanist  
 SEGESBECK, Johann Georg, 1686-1755, German botanist  
 SMALL, John Kunkel, 1869-1938, American botanist  
 SMITH, Alan Reid, 1943- , American pteridologist  
 SMITH, James Edward, 1759-1828, British botanist  
 SMITH, John, 1798-1888, British horticulturist  
 SPLITGERBER, Frederik L., 1801-1845, Dutch botanist  
 SAINT-HILAIRE, A.F.C.P. de, 1779-1853, French botanist  
 STONE, Benjamin C., 1933- , American botanist  
 SWARTZ, Olof P., 1760-1818, Swedish botanist  
 TAGAWA, Motozi, 1908- , Japanese pteridologist  
 TARDIEU-BLOT, Marie Louise, 1902- , French pteridologist  
 THOUARS (Aubert du Petit Thouars), Louis Marie, 1758-1831,  
 French botanist  
 THOUIN, André, 1747-1824, French botanist  
 TITFORD  
 TODARO, Agostino, 1818-1892, Italian botanist  
 TREVISAN de Saint-Leon, V.B.A., 1818-1897, Italian botanist  
 TRYON, Rolla M., 1916- , American pteridologist  
 UNDERWOOD, Lucien M., 1853-1907, American pteridologist  
 USTERI, Paul, 1768-1831  
 VAN ALDERWERELT VAN ROSENBURGH, C.R.W.K., 1863-1936, Dutch  
 VAN DEN BOSCH, Roelof Benjamin, 1810-1862, Dutch botanist  
 VARESCHI, Volkmar, 1906- , Venezuelan botanist  
 VASCONCELLOS, J. De Carvalho E, 1897-  
 WAGNER, Warren Herbert, Jr, 1920- , American pteridologist  
 WALKER, Trevor G., 1927- , British pteridologist  
 WALLICH, Nathaniel, 1786-1854, British pteridologist  
 WARBURG, Otto, 1859-1938, German botanist  
 WHERRY, Edgar T., 1885-1982, American naturalist  
 WILLDENOW, Karl L., 1765-1812, German botanist  
 WU, S.K., Chinese botanist  
 ZENKER, Jonathan Carl, 1799-1837, German botanist  
 ZIPPELIUS, Alexander, 1797-1828, German botanist

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