

OPHIOGLOSSACEAE (ADDER'S-TONGUE FAMILY)

Plant: fern, terrestrial

Root: no root hairs

Stem and Leaves: stems erect, simple, unbranched; leaf base with either an open or closed sheath, 1-2 leaves per stem divided into a fertile (sporophore) and sterile (trophophore) sections, both types may be simple to compound, portions of blade may be hairy

Fruit (Sori): spores trilete (3-scarred attachment)

Other: 2 subfamilies – Botrychioideae and Ophioglossoideae; Division Pteridophyta, Fern Group

Genera: 5+ genera

* Fern terminology is discussed in **PLANT TERMS**, a separate tab on the HOME page.

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Cutleaf [Dissected] Grapefern; *Botrychium dissectum* Spreng.

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Botrychium dissectum Spreng.

Ophioglossaceae (Adder's-Tongue family)

Oak Openings Metropark, Lucas County, Ohio

Notes: erect fern; trophophore (sterile) blade deltate (triangular), 3-4 pinnate, pinnules often trowel-shaped with margins serrate, finely to coarsely cut, shiny green even in winter though sometimes becomes bronze-colored in winter; sporophore (fertile portion) 2-3 pinnate; highly variable species

[V Max Brown, 2008]

