

2022 February *Guess that Plant*



Lygodium palmatum (Bernh.) Sw., American Climbing Fern

February's *Guess that Plant* is the only New Jersey fern with a twining habit. Climbing fern is a native found from New Hampshire west to Illinois and south to the Gulf Coast. New Jersey's population is restricted to the Inner Coastal Plain and the adjacent Pine Barrens. The fern has a S-2 rarity listing, and is a FAC wetland species. Climbing fern was once found from Salem to Middlesex Counties. Today extant populations exist near the village of New Lisbon, Pemberton Township Burlington County; and south of Easy Street, in Howell Township, Monmouth County.

Our species is a semi-evergreen and can be observed throughout the year. In fact, the winter months are a often time better to see this plant that otherwise is intermingled with the in-season foliage.

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