

Blechnum spicant - Hard Fern



Plant description

Hard fern grows in tufts of long, slender, rigid and glossy fronds - light green in the spring, growing darker later in the season. Hard-fern has two different types of frond (fertile and infertile). Both fronds grow up to about 30 cm but fertile fronds are narrower and stand upright.

What does this tell me about my woodland?

Hard-fern prefers cool, shaded sites and can be found in drier soils than some other ferns. Hard-fern is an Ancient Woodland Indicator Species.

pH - Neutral to acidic

Occurs in NVC Communities - W11, W17