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## ENVIRONMENTAL HORTICULTURE

Environmental Horticulture #EH434



### THELYPTERIS PRODUCTION AND CONSUMER CARE

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#### INTRODUCTION

- Common name: Japanese Beech Fern
- Scientific name: *Thelypteris decursive-pinnata*
- Native to Japan, Taiwan, and China
- Deciduous herbaceous fern growing 2-3' tall
- Narrow, lance-shaped light green fronds taper at the tip
- Foliage forms a graceful arch
- Spreads slowly by runners to form large colonies
- Hardy in zones 4-10

#### GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT

- Prefers partial shade
- Should be grown in consistently moist, slightly acidic media

- Media should be rich in organic matter; alternatively, feed frequently with a general purpose fertilizer during the growing season
- Remove old fronds after new growth begins in spring

#### PROPAGATION

- Can be propagated by spores
- Place spores on the surface of moist humus-rich media
- Transplant as soon as ferns are large enough to handle
- Can also be propagated by division in spring

#### DISORDERS

- No serious pest or disease problems

### **CONSUMER CARE**

- Performs well in rock gardens and mixed woodland areas
- Semi-evergreen in warmer climates
- New plants may appear naturally through self-sown spores

### **CULTIVARS AND SPECIES**

- *Thelypteris decursive-pinnata*: light green fronds, drooping tips

### **References**

<http://www.mobot.org/gardeninghelp/plantfinder/Plant.asp?Code=B133>

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