

# Athyrium (Fern)

## 20ct Plug

Container:

Premium 1 Gallon Pot

Finish:

8-10 weeks

When To Plant:

Early spring to late summer

## 72ct Plug

Container:

Trade 1 Gallon Container

Finish:

10-12 weeks

When To Plant:

Late spring to midsummer

### Growing Temperature:

60-70° F

### Soil pH:

5.5-6.5

### Fertility:

Ferns can be sensitive to high salt levels and may become scorched or experience root injury. Apply 50-75 ppm nitrates delivered through a water soluble fertilizer with every irrigation. Time release fertilizers incorporated in planting media should be about half of that used with most other perennials. Top-dressing with controlled release fertilizer on the soil surface should be done at low rates, as recommended on label.

### Potting and Timing:

Plant ferns in a well drained media that consists of pine bark and peat. Avoid 100 percent bark as it will require too much overhead watering.

It can be beneficial to apply a preventative fungicide drench of Cleary's 3336, OHP 6672, or FungoFlo after planting.

### Planting Level:

Plug should be placed at same level as soil surface in the container.

### Lighting:

Provide medium shade 50-60 percent.

### Holding Temperature:

50-60° F

### EC Level:

1.0-1.5 pour through method

### Pests and Diseases:

Nematodes, aphids, whiteflies, and fern moth caterpillar in greenhouse; thrips, scales, mealybugs, black vine weevil, fern snail (Deroceras), armyworms, Japanese beetle, crickets, grasshoppers, caterpillars in the field.

Botrytis blight, leaf spots, sooty mold(indoors or South), rusts, damping-off(of prothalli), foliar Rhizoctonia, Pythium.

### Moisture:

Ferns need to be kept consistently moist at all times. They do not, however, want to be soggy or water logged.

Good irrigation practices are important from the time they are planted until they are shipped. Ferns should be kept moist the entire time they are grown. Water thoroughly when irrigation is required and allow the soil to dry slightly between waterings. It is best to water early in the day to allow the fronds plenty of time to dry before night.

### PGRs/Pinching:

Ferns can be trimmed to control growth.

### Grower Tips:

Ferns will benefit from being planted earlier than mid August, they need an adequate amount of time to become established before wintering over. Optimal temperatures for rooting are 65-70° F.



**WaltersGardens**  
INC

P.O. Box 137 • 1992 96th Ave. Zeeland, MI. 49464

Phone: 888-925-8377 • Fax: 800-752-1879

Email: [sales@waltersgardens.com](mailto:sales@waltersgardens.com)

[www.WaltersGardens.com](http://www.WaltersGardens.com) • [www.PerennialResource.com](http://www.PerennialResource.com)

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