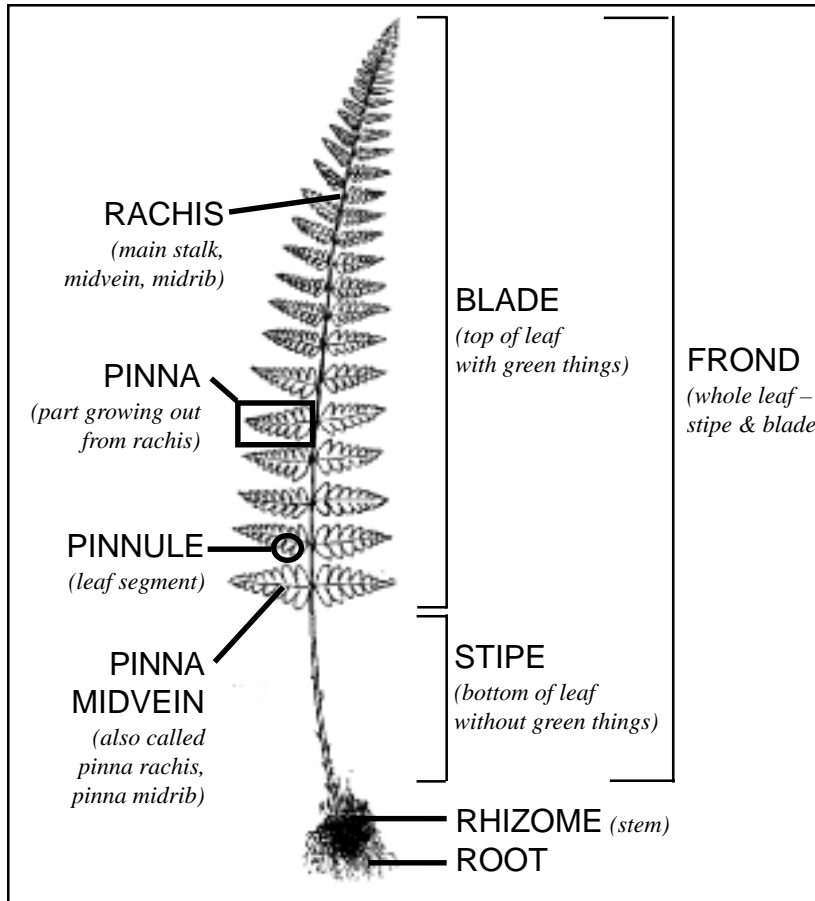


Illustrated Glossary

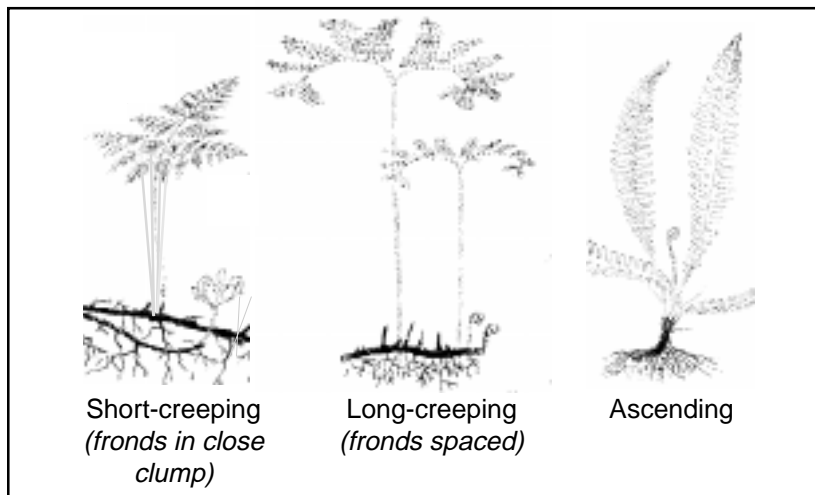


FERN PARTS

- FROND leaf of the fern; the two parts are
 BLADE top with green leaves
 STIPE bottom with no leaves
- RACHIS frond stalk; it's also called the
midvein, midrib, or main axis
- PINNA the leaves on the blade;
 plural: *pinnae*
- PINNULES the segments on the pinna
- RHIZOME the stem of the fern; it's usually
 on or just beneath the surface of
 whatever the fern is growing on
- ROOT very slender, except Leather Fern
 roots are massive; grow along length
 of stem (rhizome)
- FIDDLEHEAD a new frond still curled up at the top
- SPORE one-celled reproductive unit of non-
 seed plants; mature sori are usually
 reddish-brown and are major keys
 to identifying most ferns

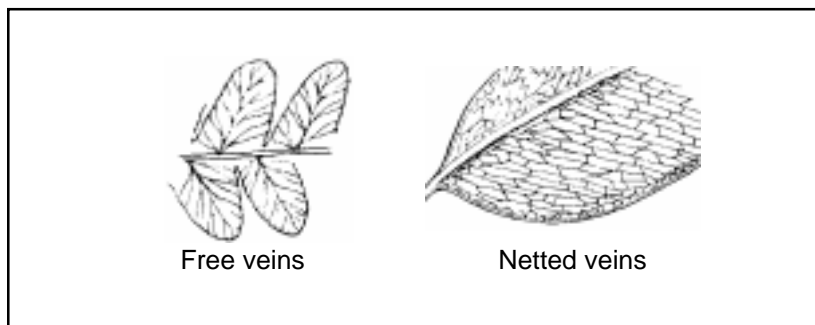
associated terms

- SPORANGIUM a spore case
 SPORANGIA plural of *sporangium*
 SORUS a cluster of sporangia
 SORI plural of *sorus*



RHIZOMES

- SHORT-CREEPING fronds grow in a clump, rising
 near each other (look like
 they're in a vase) the most
 common type of rhizome
- LONG CREEPING fronds are spaced apart,
 forming a diffuse clump
- ASCENDING the rhizome rises at the tip or
 rarely forms a short trunk;
 also referred to as *erect*



VEINS

- FREE VEINS veins run from the midvein to the
 edge without forming any kind of
 network; sometimes they branch or
fork (split); most ferns in North
 America have free veins
- NETTED VEINS ... veins link together, like netting or a
 network (*Strap Fern*)