Evergemiensis Variegated Brake Fern

Pteris ensiformis 'Evergemiensis'



Evergemiensis Variegated Brake Fern foliage
Photo courtesy of NetPS Plant Finder

Height: 16 inches

Spread: 16 inches

Sunlight: ◐ ●

Hardiness Zone: 9

Other Names: Ribbon Fern, Bird's Foot Fern, Cretan Brake Fern

Description:

Interesting, arching mound of creamy white fronds with dark green edges and veins that make them appear feather-like; a great garden groundcover or container plant; protect from wind

Ornamental Features

Evergemiensis Variegated Brake Fern is primarily valued in the garden for its cascading habit of growth. Its attractive serrated narrow compound leaves remain creamy white in color with distinctive dark green veins and tinges of chartreuse throughout the year.

Landscape Attributes

Evergemiensis Variegated Brake Fern is an herbaceous evergreen fern with a shapely form and gracefully arching fronds. Its relatively fine texture sets it apart from other garden plants with less refined foliage.

This plant will require occasional maintenance and upkeep, and should be cut back in late fall in preparation for winter. Deer don't particularly care for this plant and will usually leave it alone in favor of tastier treats. It has no significant negative characteristics.

Evergemiensis Variegated Brake Fern is recommended for the following landscape applications;

- Accent
- Mass Planting
- General Garden Use
- Groundcover
- Container Planting
- Hanging Baskets

Planting & Growing

Evergemiensis Variegated Brake Fern will grow to be about 16 inches tall at maturity, with a spread of 16 inches. It grows at a fast rate, and under ideal conditions can be expected to live for approximately 10 years. As an evegreen perennial, this plant will typically keep its form and foliage year-round.

This plant does best in partial shade to full shade. Keep it well away from hot, dry locations that receive direct afternoon sun or which get reflected sunlight, such as against the south side of a white wall. It prefers to grow in average to moist conditions, and shouldn't be allowed to dry out. It may require supplemental watering during periods of drought or extended heat. It is not particular as to soil pH, but grows best in rich soils. It is highly tolerant of urban pollution and will even thrive in inner city environments. Consider applying a thick mulch around the root zone in winter to protect it in exposed locations or colder microclimates. This is a selected variety of a species not originally from North America. It can be propagated by division; however, as a cultivated variety, be aware that it may be subject to certain restrictions or prohibitions on propagation.

Evergemiensis Variegated Brake Fern is a fine choice for the garden, but it is also a good selection for planting in outdoor containers and hanging baskets. It is often used as a 'filler' in the 'spiller-thriller-filler' container combination, providing a canvas of foliage against which the thriller plants stand out. Note that when growing plants in outdoor containers and baskets, they may require more frequent waterings than they would in the yard or garden.