

Washington Flora Checklist

A checklist of the Vascular Plants of Washington State Hosted by the University of Washington Herbarium

Family: Ophioglossaceae

19 terminal taxa (species, subspecies, and varieties).

The Washington Flora Checklist aims to be a complete list of the native and naturalized vascular plants of Washington State, with current classifications, nomenclature and synonymy.

Taxa included in the checklist:

- Native taxa whether extant, extirpated, or extinct.
- Exotic taxa that are naturalized, escaped from cultivation, or persisting wild.
- Waifs (e.g., ballast plants, escaped crop plants) and other scarcely collected exotics.
- Interspecific hybrids that are frequent or self-maintaining.
- Some unnamed taxa in the process of being described.

Family classifications follow [APG IV](#) for angiosperms, PPG I (J. Syst. Evol. 54:563-603. 2016.) for pteridophytes, and Christenhusz et al. (Phytotaxa 19:55-70. 2011.) for gymnosperms, with a few exceptions. Nomenclature and synonymy at the rank of genus and below follows the [2nd Edition of the Flora of the Pacific Northwest](#) except where superseded by new information.

Accepted names are indicated with **blue type**, synonyms with **gray type**.

Native species and infraspecies are marked with **bold-face type**.

*Non-native and introduced taxa are preceded by an asterisk.

Please note: This is a working checklist, continuously updated. Use it at your discretion.

Created from the Washington Flora Checklist database on April 2nd, 2026 at 7:12am PT.
Available online at <https://burkeherbarium.org/waflora/>

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Ferns and Lycophytes:

Ophioglossaceae [FNA2, HC, HC2] Adder's-Tongue Family

Botrychium [FNA2, HC, HC2]

J. Bot. (Schrader). 1800(2): 8, 110. 1801.

moonwort

(see also *Botrypus*, *Sceptridium*)

Botrychium ascendens W.H. Wagner [FNA2, HC2]

Amer. Fern J. 76: 36, figs. 1, 2. 1986.

upswept moonwort

Botrychium campestre W.H. Wagner & Farrar var. *campestre*, misapplied

Records of *B. campestre* var. *campestre* from WA are misidentified *B. ascendens*.

Botrychium campestre W.H. Wagner & Farrar

Amer. Fern J. 76: 39, figs. 1986.

field moonwort

var. *lineare* (W.H. Wagner) Farrar [FNA2, HC2]

Brittonia 69(3): 273. 2017.

narrow-leaf grapefern, slender moonwort

Botrychium crenulatum W.H. Wagner [FNA2, HC2]

Amer. Fern J. 71: 21. 1981.

dainty moonwort, scalloped moonwort

Botrychium hesperium (Maxon & R.T. Clausen) W.H. Wagner & Lellinger [FNA2, HC2]

Amer. Fern J. 71: 92. 1981.

western moonwort

Botrychium matricariifolium (Döll) A. Braun ex W.D.J. Koch, misapplied

See also *Botrychium michiganense*.

Botrychium lanceolatum (S.G. Gmel.) Angström [FNA2, HC, HC2]

Bot. Not. 1854: 68. 1854.

lance-leaved grapefern, green triangle moonwort

(see also *Botrychium viride*)

Botrychium lanceolatum (S.G. Gmel.) Angström ssp. *lanceolatum* [FNA2]

Botrychium lanceolatum (S.G. Gmel.) Angström var. *lanceolatum* [KZ99]

Plants previously assigned to the unpublished name *Botrychium viride* are *B. lanceolatum* sensu stricto.

Botrychium michiganense W.H. Wagner ex A.V. Gilman, Farrar & Zika [HC2]

Journal of the Botanical Research Institute of Texas 9(2): 300. 2015.

Michigan moonwort

Botrychium matricariifolium (Döll) A. Braun ex W.D.J. Koch, misapplied

Botrychium michiganense is an allotetraploid formerly confused with *B. hesperium*. The name was recently published (2015).

Botrychium minganense Vict. [FNA2, HC2]

Proc. & Trans. Roy. Soc. Canada. ser. 3, 21: 331. 1927.

Mingan moonwort

Botrychium lunaria (L.) Sw. var. *minganense* (Vict.) Dole

Botrychium onondagense Underw., misapplied

Botrychium minganense is one of our most common and widespread species of moonwort. It shows high morphological variability and is readily confused with several other species.

***Botrychium montanum* W.H. Wagner [FNA2, HC2]**

Amer. Fern J. 71: 29. 1981.

western goblin, mountain moonwort

***Botrychium neolunaria* Stensvold & Farrar [HC2]**

Brittonia 69(2): 168. 2017.

common moonwort

Botrychium lunaria (L.) Sw. [FNA2, HC], misapplied

Botrychium lunaria (L.) Sw. var. *onondagense* (Underw.) House [HC]

Botrychium onondagense Underw.

Recently published (2017) as a North American segregate of the Eurasian *Botrychium lunaria*. The *Botrychium lunaria* species complex has in recent years been split up into a number of named species, represented in Washington by *Botrychium crenulatum* and *Botrychium neolunaria*. *Botrychium neolunaria* is a diploid taxon and one of the parents of the allotetraploid *Botrychium minganense*, with which it is often confused in our area.

***Botrychium paradoxum* W.H. Wagner [FNA2, HC2]**

Amer. Fern J. 71: 24. 1981.

paradox moonwort, two-spiked moonwort

A distinctive species possessing two sporophores of more or less equal size, and no trophophore. Other *Botrychium* species often produce sporadic individuals in which the trophophore lamina is partly or fully replaced by sporangia; these might be confused with *B. paradoxum* but generally differ in the shape or degree of branching of the modified trophophore.

***Botrychium pedunculosum* W.H. Wagner [FNA2, HC2]**

Amer. Fern J. 76: 43, figs. 2, 7. 1986.

stalked moonwort

Botrychium matricariifolium (Döll) A. Braun ex W.D.J. Koch, misapplied

***Botrychium pinnatum* H. St. John [FNA2, HC2]**

Amer. Fern J. 19: 11. 1929.

northwestern moonwort, St. John

Botrychium boreale J. Milde [FNA2, HC], misapplied

Botrychium boreale J. Milde ssp. *obtusilobum* (Rupr.) R.T. Clausen

An allotetraploid species derived from *Botrychium lanceolatum* s.l. and *B. neolunaria*. FNA2: "*Botrychium pinnatum* is most commonly associated with *B. lanceolatum* and *B. lunaria* [= *B. neolunaria*]. Specimens of *B. pinnatum* in North America have been misidentified as *Botrychium boreale*."

***Botrychium rubellum* Farrar & Stensvold**

Amer. Fern J. 114(1): 52. 2024.

red triangle moonwort

***Botrychium simplex* E. Hitchc. [FNA2, HC, HC2]**

Amer. J. Sci. 6: 103, plate 8. 1823.

least moonwort

var. *compositum* (Lasch) Milde [HC2, JPM]

Verh. K.K. Zool.-Bot. Ges. Wien 19: 140. 1869.

least moonwort

var. *simplex* [HC2]

Amer. J. Sci. 6: 103, plate 8. 1823.

little grapefern, least moonwort

***Botrypus* [HC2]**

rattlesnake-fern

***Botrypus virginianus* (L.) Michx. [HC2]**

Fl. Bor.-Amer. (Michaux) 2: 274. 1803.

rattlesnake fern, common grapefern, Virginia grapefern

Botrychium virginianum (L.) Sw. [FNA2, HC]
Osmunda virginiana L.

FNA2: "Botrychium virginianum is the most widespread Botrychium in North America."

Ophioglossum [FNA2, HC, HC2]

Sp. Pl. 2: 1062. 1753; Gen. Pl. ed. 5, 484, 1754.
adder's-tongue

Ophioglossum pusillum Raf. [FNA2, HC2]

Précis Découv. Somiol. 46. 1814.
northern adder's-tongue

Ophioglossum vulgatum L. [FNA2, HC], misapplied

FNA2: "Ophioglossum pusillum is inconspicuous and may be much more common than collections indicate. It differs from *O. vulgatum* in having an ephemeral, membranous basal sheath."

Sceptridium [HC2]

grape-fern

Sceptridium multifidum (Gmel.) Tagawa [HC2]

J. Jap. Bot. 33: 200. 1958.
leathery grapefern

Botrychium californicum Underw. [Abrams]

Botrychium coulteri Underw.

Botrychium multifidum (S.G. Gmel.) Rupr. [FNA2, HC]

Botrychium silaifolium C. Presl [Peck, ILBC5]

Osmunda multifida S.G. Gmel.