

Goldie's Wood Fern

Dryopteris goldiana



Goldie's wood fern is native to northeastern North America. It is a large fern with a strong vase-like crown of spreading fronds. Under ideal conditions, it is known to grow six feet tall. In the average garden, fronds two feet long can be expected. It is hardy at least to northern zone 4. It is often a strong indicator plant of good-quality, relatively undisturbed forest areas.

Growing instructions:

Goldie's wood fern tolerates a range of pH. It needs a rich, humus-rich soil. It will also grow in regular garden soil if protected from the sun and heat.

To grow spore:

Sterilize humus-rich soil (potting soil is usable) by baking in the oven at 250 degrees for two hours. Place it in a closable container – a plastic shoebox is good – and water thoroughly. Once the soil is consistently moist, spread the spore. Place the box in a location where it will not be too hot or cold and in several weeks, you should see moss-like growth. This will be many individual small “gametophytes”, which will eventually sprout the new ferns. If several months go by and no new ferns appear, it may be necessary to ensure that there is sufficient moisture on the gametophytes. Other methods are possible.

Conservation Seed

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