

You are viewing one of thousands of biographies – click below for more, including Search box and access to Plant associated organisations.

[Plant Biographies](#)

[Bibliography](#)

---

*Polystichum setiferum*

[Synonyms : *Aspidium angulare*, *Dryopteris setifera*, *Polypodium setiferum*, *Polystichum aculeatum*, *Polystichum angulare*]

**SOFT SHIELD FERN** is an evergreen fern. Native to southern, western and central Europe it has soft lance-shaped, glossy dark green fronds.

It is also known as Alaskan fern, *Borstiger Schildfarn* (German), English fern, *Ibhig Bhog* (Scots Gaelic), and *Polystic à dents sétacées* (French).

*Setiferum* is derived from Latin *saeta* (bristle, hair) and *-fer* (bearing, carrying) components means ‘bearing bristles’.

This fern has been grown as an ornamental and has also been a parent of several ornamental cultivated varieties.