

Dispersal

How do ferns and horsetails disperse?

Ferns and horsetails main disseminules are spores, they utilize water and wind as abiotic dispersal agents and generally disperse within a two meter area. The spores are small, lightweight and typically have thick cell walls.

Motile and Vegetative Reproduction Stage

During the gametophyte phase, ferns and horsetails have flagellated sperm for motility and will reproduce vegetatively through continued growth and fragmentation.

Limiting Factors

Environmental: Lack of water either as a result of a drought or dry climate as well as a severe lack of wind.
Human activities: Construction projects that drain aquatic areas, walls and buildings that prevent wind from passing over the plants and spreading the spores.