

Although it seems odd that *T. simulata* should occupy a dry sandstone cliff when its typical habitat is wet, acid bogs, usually in association with sphagnum moss, the two habitats are similar in certain respects. The wet, cold acid conditions of a bog make it physiologically difficult for roots to absorb water and mineral nutrients. Such a state of "physiological drought" simulates the dry, nutrient-poor crevices of a sandstone cliff. This type of habitat switch is known to experienced field botanists from other examples of swamp or bog plants growing on rocks, and vice-versa. A few such examples are: *Cystopteris bulbifera*, *Dryopteris marginalis*, *D. spinulosa*, *Ledum groenlandicum*, *Lorinseria areolata*, *Matteuccia struthiopteris*, *Osmunda cinnamomea*, *Phegopteris connectilis*, *Sphagnum* spp., and *Thelypteris palustris*.

Although *T. simulata* may have been common in the low wooded acid swamps that surrounded Castle Mound in presettlement times, the nearest presently known locality is two miles away. The Castle Mound individual certainly is the result of relatively wide-range spore dispersal. It is important to point out that, in view of Klewkowski's (Science 153:305–307. 1966) ideas on the adaptive value of polyploidy in homosporous pteridophytes, the Castle Mound individual is most probably the result of single spore establishment and intragametophytic selfing.—Robbin C. Moran, Wisconsin Scientific Areas Preservation Council, Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707.

A SECOND ALABAMA LOCALITY FOR THE HART'S TONGUE.—The discovery of the Hart's-tongue, *Phyllitis scolopendrium* (L.) Newm., in a sinkhole in Jackson County, Alabama (Amer. Fern J. 69:47–48. 1979) generated interest in further searches for this fern among members of the Huntsville Grotto of the National Speleological Society who had participated in the find. According to Eric Bachelder, my guide to the Jackson County locality, these spelunkers found a second, larger population in a sinkhole in Morgan County soon after the original discovery (Huntsville Grotto Newsletter 20:49–50. 1979). On 31 May 1980, I visited the new locality with Mr. Bachelder again as my guide. The population is in a deep sinkhole in the area known as Newsome Sinks, a large sink-valley in northeastern Morgan County about 25 miles southwest of the Jackson County locality and 65 miles southwest of the one in Marion County, Tennessee. The sinkhole is about 70 feet deep and has sheer walls. A small stream falls into the sink, making the air very misty and humid, unlike the dry Jackson County sink. Also unlike the Jackson County sinkhole, it is necessary to rappel down to a wide ledge about half-way down, where most of the *Phyllitis* plants are. Fifty-three plants occur on the ledge, along with luxuriant *Cystopteris bulbifera* and Wood Nettle (*Laportea canadensis*), which may have obscured more *Phyllitis* plants. At least 20 Hart's-tongues were mature adults; the juveniles ranged from sporelings to almost adults. The ledge is partially overhung by the cliffs above, and the *Phyllitis* plants grow in a narrow strip beneath the overhang. The left end of the strip contains mostly adults and large juveniles; the plants toward the right are gradually reduced in size, age, and density. Apparently the population is spreading towards the right. Four fairly large Hart's-tongues also were seen at the bottom of the sinkhole. A number of fronds were collected as a voucher (Short 1195, AUA and duplicates to be distributed).—John W. Short, 905 McKinley Ave., Auburn, AL 36830.



Short, John W. 1980. "A Second Alabama Locality for the Hart's tongue." *American fern journal* 70, 137–137. <https://doi.org/10.2307/1546756>.

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