Cyathea species in Africa become Alsophila species.

Cyathea is an American genus of about 110 species.

Alsophila is a pantropic genus of about 230 species, poorly represented in America by 12 species, well represented in Africa-Madagascar by about 62 species ...

The discussion of the distinctive characters of these genera can be found in the revision of the family Cyatheaceae by B. Tryon.

Tryon B. (1970) The classification of the Cyatheaceae. *Contributions from the Gray Herbarium of Havard University* 200 : 3-53