

Arthropteris palisotii

Family:

Tectariaceae

Botanical name

Arthropteris palisotii (Desv.) Alston

Link to Australian Plant Name Index for publication details and synonyms:

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/102642>

Description

Rhizome c. 1 mm diam.; upper surface densely covered when young with minute appressed black-brown scales (frequently lost with age) which sometimes bear scattered simple fragile marginal hairs. Fronds 5–31 cm long, tapering towards base and partly to apex; uppermost pinna pair and terminal pinna usually distinctly enlarged. Stipes \pm absent; rachis bearing short curled hairs; frond indumentum dense on the lower surface, rare to absent on the upper surface and (rarely) scattered scales. Pinnae 8–55 mm long, 4–12 mm wide, bearing similar hairs on proximal part of upper and lower midrib; margins entire or crenulate; apex rounded or sometimes acute in upper pinnae, usually with a low rounded basal auricle. Sori superficial, at two-thirds distance from midrib to margin and usually present within auricle; indusium round, glabrous.

Distribution

NE QLD coast and hinterland from Iron Range to Herbert River. Also in Malesia, Pacific Islands and Africa.

Habit and habitat

Hemiepiphytic climber on tree trunks and occasionally rocks in mesic lowland to upper montane vine forest.

Natural history

This species starts as a terrestrial fern and climbs up tree trunks to become an epiphyte.

Citation of Australian Tropical Ferns and Lycophytes

Field AR, Quinn CJ, Zich FA (2022) Australian Tropical Ferns and Lycophytes. apps.lucidcentral.org/fern/text/intro/index.htm (accessed online INSERT DATE).

Field AR, Quinn CJ, Zich FA (2022) '*Platyserium superbum*', in Australian Tropical Ferns and Lycophytes. apps.lucidcentral.org/fern/text/entities/platyserium_superbum.htm (accessed online INSERT DATE).



Close up of frond showing sori.

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Close up of frond showing sori.

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