

Asplenium pellucidum

Family:

Aspleniaceae

Botanical name

Asplenium pellucidum Lam.

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/117183>

Common name:

Hanging Spleenwort

Description

Lithophytic or epiphytic ferns. Rhizome short-creeping, scaly. Stipe and rachis mostly dark brown, becoming green only near apex, densely scaly near base; stipe c. 2 cm long, c. 1 mm diam. Lamina narrowly elliptic, pinnate, 19–23 cm long, 4.5–5.5 cm wide, glossy bright green, slightly scaly. Primary pinnae in 20–30 pairs; basal pinnae broadly ovate; middle pinnae ±oblong, all with a basal acroscopic lobe; bases unequally cuneate, ±sessile; margins coarsely and irregularly toothed; apices obtuse; longest pinnae near middle, 23–28 mm long, 8–10 mm wide, decreasing gradually upwards with a short acute pinnatifid apical segment. Sori to 5 mm long. Perisporangia dark with smooth prominent broad ridges and smooth lacunae; exospores 44.3 μm × 27.4 μm (mean).

Distribution

Occurs in a restricted area in NE QLD known from two populations. Also scattered between Madagascar and Malesia.

Habit and habitat

Lithophytic or epiphytic on mossy branches near waterfalls in high rainfall vine forest.

Natural history

An attractive horticultural fern. The only known Australia population has been diminished by illegal collecting.

Cultivation

Best cultivated in a hanging container or a nest-fern a cool moist tropical garden or fernery.

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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Close up of frond showing sori.
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Close up of frond showing upper (adaxial) surface. © G. Sankowsky



Close up of frond showing upper (adaxial) surface. © G. Sankowsky





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