

## *Cheilanthes distans*

**Family:**

Pteridaceae

**Botanical name**

*Cheilanthes distans* (R.Br.) Mett.

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/62368>

**Common name:**

Scaley Resurrection Fern

**Description**

Fronds to 30 cm long and 3 cm wide; stipe red-brown or dark brown, with moderately dense to dense, brown scales and some hairs; rachis with dense scale; lamina linear, 2-pinnate or 2-pinnatifid at base and for most of length; larger pinnae triangular-ovate; pinnules oblong-elliptic; margins entire or lobed; upper surface with sparse to moderately dense, slender, white hairs and very sparse scales, occasionally glabrous; lower surface with sparse to dense scales and very sparse hairs. Spores spherical, granulose and ridged, with echinate ornamentation, 43–79 µm diam., 16 per sporangium.

**Distribution**

Occurs in QLD, NSW, Vic, SA and WA, most collections come from eastern QLD between Cooktown and Charleville. Also in Polynesia and New Zealand.

**Habit and habitat**

Terrestrial in soil pockets and rock crevices, usually in open woodland in rocky mountainous areas. Not usually a rainforest species but sometimes recorded from granite tors and on cliffs in rainforest.

**Cultivation**

As for *Cheilanthes brownii*.

**Similar species**

Similar to *Cheilanthes brownii* and *C. lasiophylla* but easily identified by the presence of large scales on the undersurface of the lamina in *C. distans*.

**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](https://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](https://apps.lucidcentral.org/fern/text/entities/platyserium_superbum.htm) (accessed online INSERT DATE).



Close up of frond showing sori.  
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Stipe scales. © G. Sankowsky



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



Habit. © APII

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