

Cheilanthes nudiuscula

Family:

Pteridaceae

Botanical name

Cheilanthes nudiuscula (R.Br.) T.Moore

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/62413>

Description

Fronds to 36 cm long and 5 cm wide; stipe dark red-brown, glabrous or with sparse, short, stiff hairs (1–4 cells) and very sparse scales; rachis with sparse to moderately dense hairs (usually short, occasionally to 14 cells) and sparse scales. Lamina elliptic or lanceolate, 2–3-pinnate at base, 2-pinnatifid for most of length; larger pinnae triangular-ovate; pinnules oblong or triangular; margins entire or lobed; upper surface with sparse, slender, short to medium hairs (1–4 cells), densest at the margins, or occasionally glabrous; lower surface with sparse to dense, longer hairs (0.5–1 mm). Spores spherical, granulose and ridged, with varying amounts of echinate ornamentation, 40–64 µm diam., 16 per sporangium.

Distribution

Tropical and subtropical QLD, NT and WA, in coastal and inland areas.

Habit and habitat

Terrestrial on steep rocky hillsides or in soil pockets or cracks in rocks on exposed cliffs and rock domes. Often in open woodland near a creek or gorge or exposed rock headlands, rarely on exposed tors in rainforest.

Cultivation

As for *Cheilanthes brownii*.

Similar species

Similar to *Cheilanthes brownii* but much less hairy.

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.

© CSIRO



Habit. © CSIRO



Habit. © A.R. Field



Habit. © Australian Tropical Herbarium



Web edition hosted at <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/ferns>