

# *Cheilanthes sieberi*

## Family:

Pteridaceae

## Botanical name

*Cheilanthes sieberi* Kunze

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/62485>

## Description

Fronds to 35 cm long and 3.5 cm wide; stipe and rachis dark brown or red-brown, glabrous or with sparse to moderately dense hairs (to 10 cells, often twisted and glandular), densest at stipe-rachis-rachilla junctions, with some scales. Lamina linear-lanceolate or ovate, 3-pinnate at base, 2-pinnate for most of length; larger pinnae triangular-ovate; pinnules lanceolate, ovate or elliptic; margins deeply incised, inrolled; upper and lower surfaces glabrous or with twisted hairs. Spores spherical, verrucose, with varying amounts of globular, branched or reticulate deposits; either black, ridged, 49–73 µm diam. and 16 per sporangium, or brown, trilete, 36–52 µm diam. and 32 per sporangium.

## Distribution

Found in all states of Australia except Tas and the ACT. Also in New Zealand and New Caledonia.

## Habit and habitat

Terrestrial in soil pockets and rock cracks, usually in rocky areas in open woodland.

## Natural history

A species with two subspecies distinguished by lamina indument. Reported to poison stock (S.L. Everist, *Poisonous Pl. Austral.* 2nd edn, 1981).

## 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) '*Platynerium superbum*', in Australian Tropical Ferns and Lycophytes. [apps.lucidcentral.org/fern/text/entities/platynerium\\_superbum.htm](https://apps.lucidcentral.org/fern/text/entities/platynerium_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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Frond. © G. Sankowsky



Frond. © G. Sankowsky



Habit. © G. Sankowsky



Stipe showing hairs. © G. Sankowsky



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