

Dictymia brownii

Family:

Polypodiaceae

Botanical name

Dictymia brownii (Wikstr.) Copel.

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/103013>

Description

Epiphytic or lithophytic ferns. Rhizome long-creeping, 2–6 mm diam., bearing broad thin clathrate scales, ovate, 3.5–9.5 mm long, 1–2.2 mm wide, spreading, dark brown to black; margins often with a few irregular teeth, especially towards the base; apices long-attenuate. Stipes spaced along and articulated to the rhizome, (0–) 1–4.5 (–13.5) cm long. Fronds linear, 3.5–90 cm long, 0.5–2 cm wide, pendulous or erect, thick, brittle; base tapering gradually into the stipe; margins undulate or entire; apex bluntly acute or obtuse. Sori elliptic or oblong, rarely round, varying from c. half-way between midrib and margin to almost marginal. Spores 50–75 µm long, 30–47.5 µm wide.

Distribution

Windsor Tableland NE QLD to E NSW. Also in Malesia and the Pacific Islands.

Habit and habitat

A canopy or subcanopy epiphyte or lithophyte in low to upper montane vine forest or wet-sclerophyll forest.

Cultivation

Easy to cultivate and hardy when planted in a nest-fern in a 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) '*Platycerium superbum*', in Australian Tropical Ferns and Lycophytes. apps.lucidcentral.org/fern/text/entities/platycerium_superbum.htm (accessed online INSERT DATE).



Close up of frond showing sori.

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Habit. © CSIRO



Rhizome. © G. Sankowsky

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