

Huperzia serrata

Family:

Lycopodiaceae

Botanical name

Huperzia serrata (Thunb. ex Murray) Trevis.

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/154629>

Common name:

Toothed Fir Moss.

Description

Shoots ascending to erect from a decumbent base when mature, undivided or 1–4 times divided, up to 45 cm long. Homophyllous to gradually heterophyllous with slightly reduced sporophylls. Sterile leaves isophyllous, arranged in alternating subspiral whorls of 2–5 (usually 3), appearing spiralling, spreading to deflexed, thin and lax, often irregular in size on the same branch, oblanceolate to elliptic, abruptly acute, gradually tapering to base, 8–30 mm long, 1–3.5 mm wide, pale to dark green; margins serrate at least in distal half. Sporophylls similar to leaves but may be slightly reduced, often scattered and not restricted to terminal spikes. Sporangia 0.8–1.2 mm long, 1.5–2 mm wide, lunate, much broader than sporophyll bases.

Distribution

Recorded once from the summit of Mount Bellenden Ker, QLD. Widespread but uncommon across the wet tropics and subtropics globally.

Habit and habitat

Terrestrial in mesic forest where it forms localised sparse multi-plant colonies from bulbils. Habitat in Australia not recorded, but the locality from where the collection is purported to have been made is a rocky ridge line in montane cloud forest at 1500 m alt.

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).



Habit. © A.R. Field

Copyright © Australian Tropical Herbarium 2022, all rights reserved.



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