

## *Hymenasplenium wildii*

### Family:

Aspleniaceae

### Botanical name

*Hymenasplenium wildii* (F.M.Bailey) D.J.Ohlsen

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/51251675>

### Common name:

Wild's Spleenwort

### Description

Lithophytic ferns. Rhizome short-creeping, scaly. Stipe and rachis mostly dark brown, becoming green near apex, ±glabrous; stipe 3–8 cm long, 0.2–0.5 mm diam. Lamina ovate or narrowly ovate, pinnate, 4–9 cm long, 2.5–4 cm wide, thin, ±glabrous. Pinnae in 5–8 pairs; basal ones ±ovate; others ±oblong; apices acute and sometimes curving acroscopically; margins bluntly and irregularly serrate; basal basiscopic portion excised so that each pinna appears to be joined to a short stalk in the lower corner; longest pinnae below middle, 14–25 mm long, 9–11 mm wide, gradually decreasing upwards to an acute pinnatifid apical portion. Sori to 5 mm long. Perispores dark with serrate wings and tuberculate or ribbed lacunae; exospores 28.6 µm × 20.4 µm (mean).

### Distribution

Considered endemic to NE QLD, where it is known from a small area near Daintree but also historically recorded from the Cairns region. There is a putative collection from the Philippines.

### Habit and habitat

Terrestrial on steep mudbanks or lithophytic on rocks in streambeds in lowland high rainfall humid vine forest.

### Natural history

Named after the original collector, C.J. Wild, who made botanical collections in the Daintree region in the late 1800's.

### Cultivation

Not known to be in cultivation.

### Similar species

*Hymenasplenium unilaterale* and *Hymenasplenium excisum*.

1a. Pinnae 5–8 pairs, pinnae < than 2.5 cm long, lowland habitat = *Hymenasplenium wildii*

1b. Pinnae 9 or more pairs, pinnae > 2.5 cm long, montane habitat = 2.

2a. Frond apex attenuate, basal pair of pinnae deflexed, lateral pinnae deeply excised = *Hymenasplenium excisum*

2b. Frond apex not attenuate, basal pair of pinnae not deflexed, lateral pinnae not deeply excised = *Hymenasplenium unilaterale*

### Citation of Australian Tropical Ferns and Lycophytes

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Habit. © M.J. Bayly



Close up of frond showing sori.  
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