

Hymenophyllum pallidum

Family:

Hymenophyllaceae

Botanical name

Hymenophyllum pallidum (Blume) Ebihara & K.Iwats.

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/241950>

Description

Rhizome 0.25–0.5 mm diam., forming a dense hairy mat; hairs fine, sparse, whitish to golden red. Fronds 8–16 cm long, pendulous. Stipe wiry, 1–5.5 cm long, not winged. Lamina ovate-lanceolate, deeply 2–3-pinnatifid, 6–12 cm long, 1–5 cm wide, ±glaucous, with multi-stratose lamina ±covered with pale brown jointed hairs on either side of the axes and veins (the degree of glaucousness and of hairiness variable); margins entire, thickened. Ultimate segments c. 0.8 mm wide; apex acute to rounded. Sori terminal on basal acroscopic pinna segments; involucre cup-shaped with a narrow, ±pointed base, 1.2–1.8 mm long, 0.6–1 mm diam.; mouth truncate, slightly dilated, entire or ±crenate; receptacle shortly exerted to 0.8 mm beyond the mouth.

Distribution

Occurs in NE QLD between Thornton Range and Kirrama Range. Also in Sri Lanka, Malesia and the Pacific Islands.

Habit and habitat

Forms dense to sparse mats on rocks, logs and tree trunks in tropical rainforest.

Similar species

Readily distinguished from other filmy ferns by its glaucous blue colour and by the pale hairs on the lamina.

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.
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Close up of frond showing upper (adaxial) surface. © G. Sankowsky



Habit. © G. Sankowsky



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