

## *Lecanopteris sinuosa*

**Family:**

Polypodiaceae

**Botanical name**

*Lecanopteris sinuosa* (Wall. ex Hook.) Copel.

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/120097>

**Description**

Rhizome long creeping, 1–1.5 cm diam., fleshy, bearing 2 rows of fronds articulated to swollen, conical phyllopodia, c. 1 cm tall, 1–2 cm apart; rhizome and stipe bases bearing scattered scales. Scales ±round, 0.5–3 mm diam., pale with a dark centre consisting of cells with thick lateral walls. Fronds to 40 cm long; sterile fronds often shorter. Stipe 2–10 cm long. Lamina simple, c. 8–30 cm long, 1–2.5 cm wide; base very narrow; margins thickened, sinuous (1 convexity to each sori); apex rounded; texture thin, firm with no veins visible on surface; prominent lateral veins lacking; areoles irregular. Sori large, in 1 row on each side of midrib, c. half-way or less from edge, in sharply defined shallow usually elliptic cavities (projecting on upper surface), 3–5 mm diam.; paraphyses absent. Spores 32.5–62.5 µm long, 25–47.5 µm wide.

**Distribution**

Occurs in Torres Strait on Moa Island and at Captain Billy's Landing, Cape York Peninsula. Also in Malesia and the Pacific Islands.

**Habit and habitat**

A twig and small branch epiphyte in mesic lowland vine forest.

**Cultivation**

Easy to cultivate as an epiphyte or basket 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](https://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](https://apps.lucidcentral.org/fern/text/entities/platyserium_superbum.htm) (accessed online INSERT DATE).



Close up of frond showing sori.

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Habit. © G. Sankowsky



Rhizome. © G. Sankowsky

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