

Lepisorus mucronatus

Family:

Polypodiaceae

Botanical name

Lepisorus mucronatus (Fée) Li Wang

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/239534>

Description

Rhizome short-creeping; rhizome scales triangular to broadly triangular, 3–7 mm long, 0.6–2 mm wide, dark brown to black, uniform in colour, clathrate; margins dentate. Fronds articulated to the rhizome, closely spaced; stipe bases embedded in a mass of hairy roots. Stipe 0.7–7.5 cm long. Lamina simple and entire, 8–53 cm long, 5–30 mm wide excluding the narrow apical fertile portion, narrowed ± evenly to apex and base, constricted at junction with fertile portion; veins obscurely reticulate; fertile portion 2–25 cm long, 2–4 mm wide; paraphyses with laterally affixed or peltate blades, the latter round, 10–65 µm diam., brownish to black, with thick-walled cells. Spores monolete, rugulose, 60–82.5 µm long, 27.5–45 µm wide.

Distribution

Iron Range NE QLD to Evans Head NSW. Also widespread in Asia and Pacific Islands.

Habit and habitat

Epiphytic or lithophytic in vine forest in a wide variety of habitats from coastal beach scrubs to upper montane cloud forest and inland seasonal vine forest on rock piles.

Natural history

A commonly cultivated ornamental fern. This species may become a weed in greenhouse situations.

Cultivation

Easy to cultivate in a container or as an epiphyte in a tropical garden. May be invasive in a moist greenhouse situation.

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 sori.

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