

# *Lygodium japonicum*

**Family:**

Lygodiaceae

**Botanical name**

*Lygodium japonicum* (Thunb.) Sw.

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/100393>

**Common name:**

Japanese climbing fern

**Description**

Rhizome short-creeping. Juvenile fronds unknown. Rachis sparsely pubescent, subterete, flattened on 1 side with ridged edges; primary rachis branches c. 2 mm long; secondary pinnae broadly lanceolate-triangular, 10–17 cm long, 7–17 cm wide, often broader than long, 3-pinnate; pinnule stalks reducing in length towards pinna apex; basal tertiary pinnules 3–8 cm long, 2.5–8 cm wide; ultimate pinnules ovate, lanceolate to triangular; sterile pinnules fused, palmately-lobed; terminal lobe much longer, membranous, sparsely pubescent; base ± hastate; margins entire or crenulate; veins free; sporogenous pinnules smaller and more finely dissected than sterile ones. Sporogenous lobes 1–5 mm long.

**Distribution**

Recorded from Darwin NT. Also widespread in Asia.

**Habit and habitat**

A terrestrial fern with climbing fronds, usually found growing in open vine forest or moist sclerophyll forest.

**Natural history**

Probably introduced.

**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).



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