

Ophioderma pendulum

Family:

Ophioglossaceae

Botanical name

Ophioderma pendulum (L.) C.Presl

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/115171>

Description

Plants epiphytic. Rhizome shortly creeping, often knotting, fleshy. Fronds 1–6-clustered, pendulous, flaccid, fleshy. Common stipe and sterile lamina forming a continuous linear flattened simple blade or occasionally forked once to several times distally, 25–200 cm long, 1–3 cm wide; venation of long narrow areoles, without included free veinlets. Sporophore 1–31 cm long, 8–16 mm wide, on a terete 2.5–5 cm long stipe, fused to 1 face of the sterile lamina and extending down for some distance; sporangia reaching to the apex.

Distribution

E Australia from Torres Strait to central coast of NSW. Also widespread in the tropical and subtropical areas of the Palaeotropics.

Habit and habitat

Epiphytic, commonly from other epiphytes or hollows in trees in vine forest. In NE QLD it is a common inhabitant of *Platyserium* and *Asplenium* nests from coastal beach scrubs to upper-montane rainforest.

Cultivation

Readily cultivated if planted in the base of a nest-fern in a tropical or subtropical garden or fernery. Slow to establish but very long lived growing into large specimens.

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).



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