

Phlegmariurus carinatus

Family:

Lycopodiaceae

Botanical name

Phlegmariurus carinatus (Desv. ex Poir.) Ching

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/242303>

Common name:

Keeled Tassel-Fern, Coen Tassel-Fern

Description

Epiphytic plants. Branches at first erect, later pendulous, branched 1–several times, to 40 (–80) cm long. Leaves arranged in 4 rows, spreading, angled at 30° to axis, thick and leathery, firm, linear-lanceolate, acicular, keeled, entire, 10–13 mm long, 0.8–2 mm wide, mid-green to yellow-green. Transition from sterile to sporogenous zone gradual. Sporogenous zone unbranched or branched once or twice, occupying at least the upper third of the branch. Sporophylls ovate-cuspidate to lanceolate, acute, entire, keeled, 4–8 mm long, 1–2.5 mm wide. Sporangium occupying one-eighth to less than half sporophyll length.

Distribution

In Australia restricted to a small area of the Iron Range and Mcllwraith Range on Cape York, QLD. Asia, Malesia, Australia and Pacific Islands.

Habit and habitat

In Australia it is a canopy epiphyte of trees in seasonally wet hot tropical vine forest, usually on the upper slopes and plateaus.

Natural history

The two Australian populations have been affected by tropical cyclones and illegal collecting.

Cultivation

Readily cultivated in a hanging container of free draining mix or in a nest-fern in a moist shaded tropical garden or fernery. This species is more tolerant of dry conditions than many other Australian Tassel-ferns.

Similar species

Can be distinguished from other Australian *Phlegmariurus* by having adpressed semisucculent lycophylls.

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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