

# *Phlegmariurus ledermannii*

**Family:**

Lycopodiaceae

**Botanical name**

*Phlegmariurus ledermannii* (Herter) A.R.Field & Bostock

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/51347416>

**Common name:**

Queensland Black-Stemmed Tassel Fern

**Description**

Habit epiphytic or lithophytic with erect, arching to pendulous, abruptly heterophyllous shoots. Sterile sections leafy; 9–24 mm in diameter, 20–180 cm long, forking 1–6 times, evenly ramified. Stems woody; 2–4 mm in diameter in basal module; dark reddish-brown to purplish-black basally, pale green distally; bearing fine to indistinct longitudinal grooves between flattened ridges bearing the leaves. Leaves firm to hard, minutely petiolate, obliquely twisted facing an upper plane, obtusely spreading; arranged in alternating sub-spirals of 3–6 basally and alternating sub-spirals whorls of 2–3 distally; ovate to ovate-lanceolate, 6–12 mm long x 2–4 mm wide, with a cuneate to obtuse base and sharply-acute apex, flat to recurved in cross section, entire margins, glossy mid-green to dark (drying a mid to reddish brown brown). Basal leaves mostly similar to mid and distal leaves. Fertile sections filiform to moniliform, terete; 1–2 mm in diameter and up to 450 mm long, forking 2–6 times, evenly ramified. Sporophylls scale like, adpressed; arranged in alternating sub-whorls of 2–3; ovate-deltoid, with a rounded base and acute apex; 1.5–2 mm long x 1–1.5 mm wide.

**Distribution**

In Australia, this species is recorded from the mountains of the Wet Tropics between Mt Finnegan and Paluma, QLD. Occurs from New Guinea to New Caledonia.

**Habit and habitat**

Epiphytic from the trunk and branches of trees or lithophytic, usually in montane, submontane and gorge rainforest.

**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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