

Pteridium aquilinum

Family:

Dennstaedtiaceae

Botanical name

Pteridium aquilinum (L.) Kuhn

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/57371>

Common name:

Hairy Bracken

Description

Stipe and rachis dull yellow-brown, bearing abundant non-glandular hairs; stipe 25–60 cm long, 3–6 mm diam., woody. Lamina broadly ovate or triangular to broader than long, 40–c. 100 cm long, 30–90 cm wide, 3-pinnate at base, sparsely hairy along midribs of upper surface; lower surface with dense colourless spreading non-glandular hairs throughout. Longest primary pinnae 18–60 cm long, 8–45 cm wide. Secondary pinnae arising at wide angles; longest 4–25 cm long, 1–4 cm wide; midribs of primary and secondary pinnae lacking free lobes or wings. Tertiary pinnae all \pm equal in length on each secondary pinna; longest 6–25 mm long, 3–5 mm wide; ultimate pinnules linear, slightly falcate, acute, entire, adnate. Indusium less than 0.2 mm wide, membranous, fimbriate, hairy.

Distribution

Naturalised in NT, QLD, SA. Widespread, particularly in the northern hemisphere.

Habit and habitat

Terrestrial.

Natural history

A widespread weed.

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) '*Platycerium superbum*', in Australian Tropical Ferns and Lycophytes. apps.lucidcentral.org/fern/text/entities/platycerium_superbum.htm (accessed online INSERT DATE).



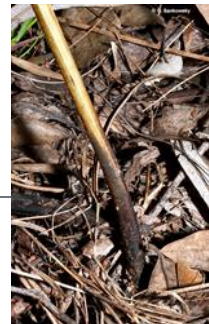
Frond, stipe hairs. © G. Sankowsky



Frond. © G. Sankowsky



Frond, upper (adaxial) side. © G. Sankowsky



Stipe. © G. Sankowsky

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