

Pteris umbrosa

Family:

Pteridaceae

Botanical name

Pteris umbrosa R.Br.

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/72955>

Common name:

Jungle Brake

Description

Moderately large terrestrial and lithophytic ferns. Rhizome short-creeping to erect, stout, scaly; scales lanceolate, brown. Fronds slightly dimorphic. Stipes clustered, 30–60 (–80) cm long, orange-brown at the base, yellowish brown above. Lamina 1-pinnate (except for base which is 1-pinnate-pinnatifid), 30–70 (–125) cm long, dark green, glabrous. Pinnae broadly attached and long-decurrent on rachis; lowermost pair of pinnae shortly stalked, 15–35 cm long. Sterile pinnae linear, 1–1.5 (–2) cm wide; margins serrate; apex attenuate. Fertile pinnae slightly narrower. Veins free, simple or once-forked. Sori extending to the bases of decurrent pinnae and pinnules; paraphyses scarce.

Distribution

Endemic to eastern Australia with three disjunct populations, one in the Wet Tropics of NE QLD, one in SE QLD and one in E Vic.

Habit and habitat

Terrestrial, often in rocky or damp gullies, on the edge of rock-faces or on hillslopes in wet to dry vine forest or sclerophyll forest and open woodland.

Cultivation

Readily cultivated in the ground or a container in a tropical or subtropical garden or fernhouse.

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).



Close up of frond showing sori.
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Close up of frond showing sori.
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Habit. © G. Sankowsky



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