

## *Ptisana oreades*

**Family:**

Marattiaceae

**Botanical name**

*Ptisana oreades* (Domin) Murdock

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/223049>

**Description**

Rhizome short and erect, obscured by massive accumulation of persistent leaf bases (stipules) forming a 'rootstock' to 50 cm high. Fronds clustered, 2–4-pinnate, to 4 m long. Fronds to 4 m long, arching. Stipe to 75 cm long, up to two-thirds of leaf length, scabrid due to scale bases. Lamina 2-pinnate, to 1.5 m long and 1 m wide. Pinnae obovate, opposite to subopposite, up to 6 pairs, to 85 cm long and 45 cm wide. Pinnules linear-lanceolate, opposite to alternate, up to 31 pairs, to 25 cm long and 4.5 cm wide; base unequal to cuneate; margins serrulate; apex acuminate to aristate, toothed. Veins free, generally simple or once-forked at base. Sori along lateral veins, superficial, submarginal, with up to 10 compartments per synangial valve. Spores ellipsoidal and monolete; exospore ornamentation granular to spiny.

**Distribution**

Endemic to NE QLD between the Mcllwraith Range and Eungella.

**Habit and habitat**

Terrestrial, often on banks and watercourses in mesic vine forest.

**Natural history**

A very large fern that maintains erect fronds by water turgor. Dehydrated plants usually flop on the ground.

**Similar species**

Similar to *Angiopteris evecta* but differing in the structure of the synangium - see images.

**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).



Close up of frond showing sori.

© G. Sankowsky



Close up of frond showing sori.

© M. Fagg, APII



Close up of frond showing upper (adaxial) surface. © G.

Sankowsky



Habit. © A.R. Field



Habit and base. © A.R. Field

