

## *Sceptridium australe*

### Family:

Ophioglossaceae

### Botanical name

*Sceptridium australe* (R.Br.) Lyon

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/51347704>

### Description

Rhizome erect, 1–5 cm long; roots thick, fleshy, contractile. Fronds 5–50 cm tall, fleshy. Common stipe 1–5 cm long. Sterile lamina borne on a stipe (1–) 5–18 (–27) cm long, ternate, 3-pinnate to 3-pinnate-pinnatifid, lanceolate-deltoid to broadly ovate-deltoid, 3–22 cm long, 4–25 cm wide. Ultimate segments variable, ovate to oblong or obovate, acute to obtuse; margins entire or finely toothed. Sporophore borne on a stipe 9–22 cm long, 2–3-pinnate, standing above the sterile lamina. Sporangia brown at maturity.

### Distribution

E Australia from Herberton Range NE QLD to central coast of NSW. Also Malesia and New Zealand.

### Habit and habitat

Terrestrial on rainforest margins and in wet sclerophyll and open forest.

### Natural history

Rare in tropical QLD.

### Cultivation

Moderately difficult to propagate and establish but can be grown in a container of free draining mix in a well lit fernery.

### 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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Frond. © APII

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