

Selaginella pygmaea

Family:

Selaginellaceae

Botanical name

Selaginella pygmaea (Kaulf.) Alston

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/177655>

Description

Annual plants, tufted; stems 10–25 (–35) cm tall, slender, several, often much-branched, arising from a short horizontal rhizome; roots many, filamentous. Leaves lanceolate to elliptic-lanceolate, c. 0.5 mm long and well-spaced towards stem base, 1–1.3 mm long and 0.3 mm wide above, contiguous or overlapping, decurrent at base, herbaceous, mid-green; margins entire; apex acute or slightly acuminate. Strobili terminal on branches, 1.5–2 cm long; sporophylls ovate, 1.3 mm long, keeled, long-attenuate to a fine, acute point, spreading at maturity; margins entire. Megaspores 250–350 µm diam., reticulate. Microspores 30–45 µm diam., rugose or with fine reticulate ridges.

Distribution

NE QLD, N NT, N WA. Also in Africa.

Habit and habitat

Damp situations, often in sandy soils, especially in coastal heathlands; also in sclerophyll forests.

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).



Habit; close up of frond showing sori. © Australian Tropical Herbarium



Habit. © Australian Tropical Herbarium

Copyright © Australian Tropical Herbarium 2022, all rights reserved.



Web edition hosted at <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/ferns>