

Stenochlaena palustris

Family:

Blechnaceae

Botanical name

Stenochlaena palustris (Burm.f.) Bedd.

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

<https://id.biodiversity.org.au/name/apni/67625>

Description

Rhizome climbing or scrambling. Fronds dimorphic, 24–70 (–165) cm long, 9–30 cm wide. Stipe 8–30 (–82) cm long, stramineous to brown, glabrous or with peltate ±entire reddish-brown scales. Lamina ovate, pinnate, with 4–14 pairs of pinnae. Rachis and costae stramineous to brown, glabrous. Sterile pinnae narrowly ovate, long-acuminate, 5–20 cm long, 1–5 cm wide, shortly stalked, sharply serrate; basal pinnae not reduced. Fertile pinnae 2–3 mm wide. Spores $41 \times 27 \mu\text{m}$, verrucose and minutely vermiculate to scaberulous.

Distribution

Tropical NT and NE QLD from Torres Strait to Halifax Bay. Also Asia and Malesia.

Habit and habitat

Terrestrial, often climbing on trees in paperbark swamp forest or palm swamp forest and on creek banks in rainforest.

Natural history

This species may be invasive in garden and cropping situations.

Cultivation

Easily grown in a moist or saturated part of the tropical garden. This species will grow up trees, particularly paperbarks (*Melaleuca* spp.), and can become invasive.

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



Close up of frond showing fertile pinna and upper (adaxial) surface of sterile pinna. © CSIRO



Close up of frond showing fertile pinna and upper (adaxial) surface of sterile pinna. © CSIRO



Habit. © CSIRO

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