

# *Doodia heterophylla*



Sterile frond



## *Doodia heterophylla*

Family: *Blechnaceae*

Genus: *Doodia* named after Samuel Doody an apothecary of London.

Species: From Greek *heteros* (different), *phyllus*, (leaved), i.e. bearing more than one kind of frond.

*Doodias* are terrestrial ferns with dark, wiry roots. Fronds are clumped and divided once. The pinnae are leathery and rough with toothed margins.

*Doodia heterophylla* grows to about 40 cm with long, thin laminae. The laminae are 12-35 cm long and 0.5-3.5 cm wide. The pinnules are broadly attached to the rachis except possibly the lowest pair which are stalked. The lower section of the frond has been likened to “ric-rac braid”. Fertile laminae are longer and narrower than non-fertile laminae.

This fern is endemic to SE Qld – notably the Sunshine Coast, in rainforest and wet sclerophyll forest. It is often found growing in rock crevices on cliff faces or by streams. The type specimen in the Queensland Herbarium was collected from Maroochy and Glasshouse Mtns in July 1879 and identified by F.M.Bailey.



Fertile frond