

Pellaea paradoxa



Pellaea paradoxa: Large-leaved sickle fern

Family: *Adiantaceae*

Genus: *Pellaea* from the Greek *pellaios* (dark) in reference to the dark frond stipes.

Species: *paradoxa* from the Latin *paradoxus* (paradoxical) because the species was originally classified in the genus *Adiantum*, from which it differs by having continuous marginal sori.

This is a terrestrial fern growing to a height of 60cm and spreading locally. Very young fronds have a single heart-shaped leaf.

It is found in rainforests and wet sclerophyll forests, often among rocks.



Young frond



Spore pattern



Appressed scales on the rachis

Flora of Australia Volume 48: Ferns, Gymnosperms and Allied Groups,
Australian Ferns: Growing them Successfully by Calder Chaffey,
A Field Guide to Australian Ferns: Volume 1 by Calder Chaffey.