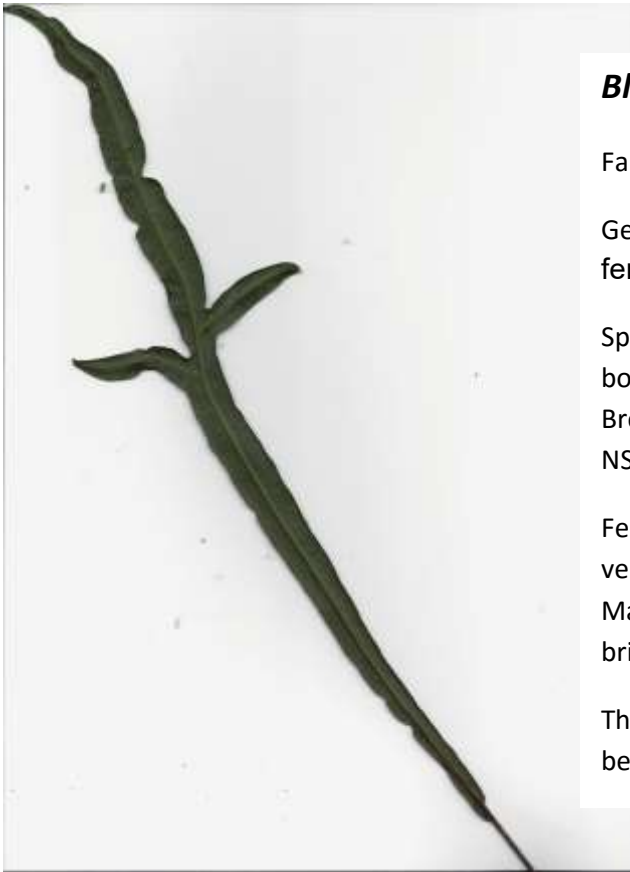


Blechnum patersonii



Blechnum patersonii: Strap Water Fern

Family: *Blechnaceae*

Genus: *Blechnum* from the Greek *blechnon* (a fern)

Species: *patersonii* after W. Paterson, soldier, botanical explorer and collector for Joseph Banks, Brevet-Colonel, one-time Lieutenant Governor of NSW.

Fern height is up to 50cm. The fertile pinnae are very narrow and shorter than the sterile pinnae. Mature foliage is leathery and shiny dark green but bright pink when young.

The fern grows in deep rainforest on creek banks, beside waterfalls and in moist gullies.



Pink new growth



Fertile frond

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.

W. Johnston Nov 2015