

Hypolepis muelleri



Long-running and branching rhizome

Hypolepis muelleri: Harsh ground fern

Family: *Dennstaedtiaceae*

Genus: *Hypolepis* from the Greek *hypo* (under) and *lepis* (a scale), in reference to the protection of the sori beneath a reflexed portion of the margin in most of these ferns.

Species: *muelleri* after Ferdinand von Mueller, botanist and explorer who worked extensively in Australia.

This is a terrestrial fern with a hairy long-creeping, branched and spreading rhizome. The lamina is divided 3 times, triangular-shaped and dark green with a harsh texture. The stipes are brown to brown-yellow.

Hypolepis muelleri grows in fast-spreading colonies in swampy or moist soils in wet sclerophyll forests, rainforest margins and open cleared land.



Spore pattern