## Hypolepis muelleri





Spore pattern





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.

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.