

Todea barbara



Todea barbara: King fern

Family: *Osmundaceae*:

Genus: *Todea*: named after H.J.Tode, a German botanist who worked on fungi.

Species: *barbara*: from Latin *barbarous* (foreign).

This is a terrestrial fern growing up to 300cm. It has a large trunk matted with roots at the lower end. The laminae are shiny dark green above and pale green below. The spores on this fern all mature simultaneously while the spore is still green, the spore dropping often before the frond has completely unfurled.

It grows in damp gullies or swamps, on the banks of streams or in crevices on rock faces.



Sporangia