PLANT FACT SHEET

# *Drynaria rigidula* (Swartz) Beddome

**GENUS** *Drynaria* **FAMILY** Polypodiaceae

**COMMON NAMES** Basket Fern

## EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

**Edible parts:** Young fronds

## DESCRIPTION

A very large fern. It usually grows attached to other plants. It grows 0.3-1.5 m tall. The rootstock is thick and fleshy. The nest leaves are short, narrow and deeply lobed. The sterile fronds are 10-36 cm long by 5-10 cm wide. They are sword shaped. The fertile fronds are very long and have leaflets along the stalk. The fronds are 0.3-1.5 cm long and erect or arching. The segments are 5-20 cm long and narrowly sword shaped. There are small teeth along the edge. The spore bodies are round and in a single row.

## HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in the tropics and subtropics. It grows on trees and rocks. It favours moist forest and rainforest.

## PRODUCTION

### Cultivation

Plants can be grown by spores or by division of the plant.

## NOTES

There are about 20 Drynaria species.

## PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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