

# Angiopteris evecta (Frost.) Hoff.

A rainforest fern. The arching, glossy green fronds, which emerge from the tip of the rhizome, may reach up to 9 m long and 2.5 m wide with the fleshy green petiole making up 2 m of that length. They are said to be the longest fern fronds in the world and despite their enormous size they have no woody strengthening tissues in the fronds to keep them erect – instead they are supported entirely by the hydraulic pressure of the sap. On either side of the petiole where it arises from the rhizome there are flat, rounded, leathery, ear-shaped stipules, known as “auricles”, which can measure up to 15 cm (5.9 in) in diameter. Sporangia are borne on the underside of the pinnules, very close to the margin, in clusters of 5 to 8 opposite pairs. Overall dimensions of this fern can be up to 7 m (23 ft) high by 16 m (52 ft) wide.



**Native to**  
Southeast Asia and  
Oceania



**Geo. Distribution**  
Old World tropics, tropical  
Asia, Australia

