

Equisetum ramosissimum Desf.

A species of evergreen horsetail. It is a rhizomatous geophyte. Subterranean stem black, up to 5 mm in diameter, usually vertical and deeply buried, branching into horizontal stems, all rooting at the nodes and bearing aerial stems at intervals. Aerial stem hollow, longitudinally ribbed, erect, c. 0.5-1(2) m tall, with up to 16 thinner branches arranged in whorls at the nodes. Leaves scale-like, 12-16 leaves united for most of their length but with free black acuminate teeth and forming a whorled sheath above each node. Strobili borne terminally on the main stem, oblong, 23 × 8 mm, with a blunt conical apex. much branched, referring to the numerous whorls of branches that this fern has at each node. It forms dense thickets over time. It prefers moist or wet conditions and is often found near water bodies such as rivers, ponds and wetlands.



IUCN Status
Least concern



Native to
Asia, Europe & Africa



Geo. Distribution
Africa, southern and central
Europe, Asia south and
central America.

