

# Pteris vittata L.

This fern is seen Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks. Also grows in humid or moist walls, cliffs and rocks near or on the margins of streams, usually in shade and usually near permanent water. Fronds are pinnately compound. The leaflets are generally lance-shaped and may have a glossy appearance. This fern can vary in size, but it typically reaches a height of about 30-90 centimeters (12-36 inches). It reproduces through spores produced on the undersides of the fronds. It can thrive in a variety of habitats, including disturbed areas, forests, and even along roadsides. One distinctive feature of this fern is its ability to hyperaccumulate arsenic from the soil. This property has made it a subject of interest in phytoremediation studies, where it is used to help remove arsenic from contaminated soils. This fern is sometimes grown ornamentally in gardens and landscapes for its attractive foliage.



**IUCN Status**  
Least concern



**Native to**  
China



**Geo. Distribution**  
East to the south tropical, and southern Africa, temperate and tropical Asia and Australia

