

# Drynaria quercifolia (L.) J. Sm.

This fern is typically found in humid forests, where it grows epiphytically on the trunks and branches of trees or on rocks. The fronds are leathery, evergreen, and often resemble the shape of oak leaves, which is why it is called the "oakleaf fern." The fronds are deeply lobed and serrated margins. The fronds are usually pinnatifid, meaning they have deep lobes and are divided into segments. The rhizomes and the lower portions of the fronds are covered with distinctive brown scales, which add to the fern's unique appearance.

In some traditional medicine practices, the rhizomes and scales have been used for their potential medicinal properties, especially for bone health. It is appreciated for its ornamental value in gardens and as an attractive addition to fern collections due to its oakleaf-like fronds and epiphytic growth habit.



**IUCN Status**  
Least concern



**Native to**  
Hainan to Tropical Asia and N. Australia



**Geo. Distribution**  
Tropics and subtropics

