

Dryopteris filix-mas

COMMON NAME

male fern

FAMILY

Dryopteridaceae

AUTHORITY

Dryopteris filix-mas (L.) Schott

FLORA CATEGORY

Vascular – Exotic

STRUCTURAL CLASS

Ferns

NVS CODE

DRYFIL

CONSERVATION STATUS

Not applicable

HABITAT

Terrestrial. Streamsides, open scrub, damp forest.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Stout rhizomatous fern. **Laminae bipinnate** up to 125 x 30 cm, dark green above, paler green below. **Primary pinnae** in 25–50 pairs, secondary pinnae in 15–30 pairs. **Sori** round, 1–5 pairs on each secondary pinnae.

SIMILAR TAXA

Dryopteris is closely related to *Polystichum* and *Lastreopsis*, but distinguished from *Polystichum* by the kidney-shaped indusia, and from *Lastreopsis* by its abundance of stipe-scales and absence of hairs. *D. filix-mas* is closely related to *D. affinis* but can be distinguished by the second pinnae being round-ended and margins toothed throughout.

YEAR NATURALISED

1958

ORIGIN

Europe, Asia, N. America

Reason For Introduction

Ornamental

Reproduction

Sexually from spores.

MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.nzpcn.org.nz/flora/species/dryopteris-filix-mas/>



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