

Austral Bracken *Pteridium esculentum*

Flowers: August – October. H to 1.5 but usually around 60cm - 1 m. Spreading



Coarse erect fern with stiff fronds. Fronds are coiled when they first emerge, become harder & darker as they unfurl. Requires well drained soils to flourish, Bracken will form dense patches spreading by underground rhizomes and roots. Considered a troublesome weed & a fire hazard in some rural areas. The fire hazard can be reduced by removing dead fronds and stems. With or without its problems, Bracken is an integral part of the Australian landscape and flourished throughout the sandbelt region, & is still present in most bushland reserves foreshore areas & along some railines & creeks.