

Botanical Name: Platycerium bifurcatum

Common Name: Staghorn fern

Type of Plant: perennial: fern Character evergreen

Habit of Growth:

Overall Shape odd, spreading plant with long, forked drooping fronds

extending from a rosette of flattened, rounded fronds--sends out offsets

around base

Height 3-6' Spread 6 ft. or more Growth Rate slow-moderate

Environment:

Exposure outdoor prefers part shade - takes sun at the coast

Soil small amount of highly organic soil

Hardiness tolerates some frost to 22 (zones 15-17, 19-24)

Morphology:

Leaves grayish green, tomentose-sterile fronds rounded with

undulate margins; fertile fronds drooping to 3'; divided into narrow segments

Flowers none; sori in terminal patches under frond tips;

become brown when ripe

Fruit none

Propagation: spore, division

Usage: usually mounted on boards, bark or wired to trees. Some-

times grown in hanging baskets--good for patios, shady areas

Landscape Care:

Watering keep on the dry side -- allow soil to dry between waterings

Fertilizing high potassium fertilizer every 2 mos. during growing seas.

Pruning remove dead fronds -- divide if too large

Pests/Diseases mealybug, scale

Special Conditions

Origin: Australia/Polynesia Family: Polypodiaceae