

Ferns of Africa

KEY TO THE GENUS ADIANTUM

1.a. Frond simple	<i>A. reniforme</i>
1.b. Frond divided	2
2.a. Frond pinnate	3
2.b. Frond 2- to 4-pinnate or pedate	10
3.a. Pinnae round in outline, shortly stalked	<i>A. balfourii</i>
3.b. Pinnae other outline	4
4. a. Rhachis hairy	5
4.b. Rhachis not hairy	6
5.a. Pinnae not deeply incised, petiolule 2-4 mm long	<i>A. comorense</i>
5.b. Pinnae deeply incised, petiolule < 2 mm long	<i>A. incisum</i>
6.a. Pinnae sessile or with petiolule < 1 mm long	7
6.b. Petiolule \geq 1 mm long	8

7.a. Pinnae rectangular, sori 2-3(-4) per pinnae, Tanzania only	<i>A. stolzii</i>
7.b. Pinnae oblong-lanceolate, sori 4-7 per pinnae	<i>A. schweinfurtii</i>
8.a. Stipe and rhachis winged	<i>A. soboliferum</i>
8.b. Stipe and rhachis not winged	9
9.a. Pinnae semicircular, margin lobed	<i>A. lunulatum</i>
9.b. Pinnae triangular, margin sharply toothed	<i>A. mendoncae</i>
10.a. Frond pedate (palmate)	11
10.b. Frond 2- 4-pinnate	12
11.a. Frond hairy	<i>A. hispidulum</i>
11.b. Frond not hairy	<i>A. patens</i>
12.a. Frond regularly 2-pinnate	<i>A. vogelii</i>
12.b. Frond more divided	13
13.a. Fronds erect, up to 1.5 m tall, pinnule margin finely sharply toothed, sori in shallow indentations of lobes , naturalised in Tanzania	<i>A. formosum</i>
13.b. Smaller ferns without above combination of characters	14

14.a. Lowermost pinnule on upper side of pinnae closer to and overlapping the main rhachis, Tanzania only	<i>A. concinnum</i>
14.b. Lowermost pinnule on upper side of pinnae neither close nor overlapping the main rhachis,	15
15.a. Veins ending in the teeth of the marginal serrations	16
15.b. Veins ending in the sinuses between the teeth of the marginal serrations	17
16.a. Sori circular to reniform	<i>A. aethiopicum</i>
16.b. Sori oblong to lunulate	<i>A. capillus-veneris</i>
17.a. Pinnules large, deciduous, margins crenate	<i>A. poiretii</i>
17.b. Pinnules small, not deciduous, margins serrate	<i>A. raddianum</i>

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