

Pteris madhusoodananii

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Pteris madhusoodananii Latest News

A team of Indian botanists recently discovered a rare new species of fern named *Pteris madhusoodananii* within the misty Kolli hills of the Eastern Ghats.

About *Pteris madhusoodananii*

- It is a new species of **fern**.
- It was discovered within the misty **Kolli hills** of the **Eastern Ghats** in **Tamil Nadu**.
- It is currently known to exist in only two small sites covering just 8 sq.km.
- It has been immediately classified as '**Critically Endangered**' due to its extremely small habitat and the threat of human encroachment.
- While it looks similar to other ferns in the *Pteris* family, *Pteris madhusoodananii* is characterised by **stiff, leathery leaves** with a **lustrous, deep green colour**.
- Unlike its closest relatives, it features a **very prominent lobe at the base of its lower segments** and a unique pinna-pinnule architecture, in which its smaller leaflets are arranged along the stem.

- At a microscopic level, its spores possess a narrow, wavy-edged belt called a cingulum, a feature distinct from the smooth, wider belts found on similar species.

News: RM

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/pterus-madhusoodananii/>

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