



## Australian Tree Fern

*Cyathea cooperi*

07-03



<u>Hardiness</u>	<u>Exposure</u>	<u>Soil</u>	<u>Water</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Height</u>
Zones 15-24, H1, H2	Partial shade in hottest climates	If soil is dry and sandy, try digging in compost and peat	Regular watering	Produces no flowers	Eventually to 20 feet tall

Tree-ferns are the largest of the ferns and can provide a spectacular addition to most gardens. The tree-ferns *Cyathea australis* and *Cyathea cooperi* are commonly grown in gardens and displays for this aesthetic appeal and their hardiness. Both of these species are of the fern family Cyatheraceae. .

*C. cooperi*, the **Lacy Tree Fern**, derives this name from its delicate fronds. It is also known as the **Australian Tree Fern** as it is one of the most commonly grown Australian tree-ferns.

*C. cooperi* is quite distinctive from *C. australis* in that it has a more slender trunk with distinctive "coin spots" where old fronds have broken off the trunk. *C. cooperi* fronds are bright green and lacy and tend to be very fast growing. There are several major horticultural varieties of this fern including *Cyathea* 'Brentwood' which has paler fronds and scales and *C. 'Robusta'* which tends to be darker in both characters. *C. cooperi* is the one of the most popular tree ferns, along with *Dicksonia antarctica* due to its rapid growth form, hardiness and aesthetic appeal.