



Figure S1. Distribution of 431 species of filmy ferns in the epiphyte-lithophyte-terrestrial space excluding *Vandenboschia*. The number of species with a preference for epiphytic growth, i.e. $E \geq 50$, was 293 (note that in this calculation we assigned half of the species at the border, e.g. $EV = LV = 50\%$ to E and L). Symbol size varies with the number of species that share the same value. Individual species values are based on 1 – 45 sources. The grey lines separate three zones of preference for epiphytic, lithophytic or terrestrial growth, with the central triangle being occupied by generalists. The full data set is given in Tables S1 and S2.