

WEED OF THE WEEK

BROUGHT TO YOU BY KAUA'I COMMUNITY RADIO & KAUA'I INVASIVE SPECIES COMMITTEE

WEEK EIGHT, AUGUST 13, 2008

KAHILI GINGER

Hedychium gardnerianum



Forest & Kim Starr

Description: Grows 3-8 ft. tall, with long leaf blades & fragrant yellow flowers & red stamen in cylindrical shape

Native Range: Himalayas

Distribution: In gardens & native forest areas statewide, dense patches found in Koke'e spreading towards the Alaka'i

Weed Risk Assessment Score: 16-VERY HIGH RISK

INVASIVE INFO

- Seeds are easily spread by non-native birds
- On DOFAW's list of Hawai'i's **Most Invasive Horticultural Plants** to avoid planting
- Forms dense stands, taking over the understory
- On the "**discontinue selling**" list for nurseries who signed on to Kava'i Landscaping Industry Council's Voluntary Codes of Conduct
- **Rhizome mats** are very labor-intensive to remove
- Listed as one of Kava'i Watershed Alliance's top priority weeds to **remove for watershed protection**
- Can **block streams & overwhelm crops** as it has done in other areas of the world like Azores
- Designated as one of the "**World's 100 Worst Invasive Species**"

**THE FOREST NEEDS YOUR
KOKUA...VOLUNTEER!**

**Be a WEED WARRIOR by removing Kahili
Ginger from your garden & Koke'e!**