

# HAVE YOU SEEN THIS PLANT?

**Scientific Name:** *Odontonema cuspidatum*

**Common Name:** fire spike

**Origin:** Mexico to Panama

**Propagation:** Seed (bird dispersed)

**Habit:** Shrub

**Description:** A **shrub** 1-2 m high; **petioles** short, 0.5-2 cm long; **leaf blades** ovate; **inflorescences** spicate, narrow, compact, many flowered, 10-40 cm long, sometimes with 2 or 3 lateral spikes arising from the base; pedicels 2-7 mm long; calyx bright red, composed of 5 small, ovate, acute lobes 1-2 mm long; corolla bright red, the tube 20-30 mm long, gradually slightly swollen distally, the lobes 2-5 mm long; stamens included (Smith, 1991; p. 135)

**Presence on Kaua'i:** During a roadside survey conducted in 2007, this plant was spotted at four sites: On the corner of Kaumuali'i Hwy and Pua Loke (Lihue), on the corner of Pua Loke and Haleko Rd. (Lihue), and two places along Omao Rd. (Omao).



Photos: Forest & Kim Starr

## KISC NEEDS YOUR HELP!

As an ongoing part of KISC's Early Detection Program, we are asking anyone to report sightings of this plant so that we might conduct delimiting surveys resulting in possible eradication.

Let us know by sending an email to: [kisc@hawaiiintel.net](mailto:kisc@hawaiiintel.net)



# KISC

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