Costus afer Ker Gawl

Native to tropical Africa.

L-78.0588, Senegal: P. Maas 68.231, via G. Daniels, via Foster 75.635; voucher: KMN 2336 at HLA (not found), E; DNA to Chelsea Specht. 1 planted 10 Aug 1979, between H23-4a-3 & -4; in flower, 28 Jul 2001, 24 Mar 2006. Verified as C. afer by R.M. Smith, 10/81, based on KMN 2336. Chelsea Specht collected DNA and took photos, 28 Jul 2001, but questioned whether it was C. afer.
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L-78.0588, Senegal.

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Costus afer (left of 2 inflorescence) has 2 flowers/bract, and flowers both terminally and on separate, short shoots without leaves. C. dubius (right of 2 inflorescences) has only one flower/bract, and only flowers basally with separate, leafless shoots. It produces many seeds and quickly becomes quite weedy.
Costus afer Ker Gawl


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