

Alpinia zerumbet

System: Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Magnoliophyta	Liliopsida	Zingiberales	Zingiberaceae

Common name kaopu'i (Cook Islands), kaopui (Cook Islands), pink porcelain-lily (English), shell flower (English), teuila (Samoan), shell-ginger (English), light galangal (English), teuila (Tongan), Kopi 'enua (Cook Islands)

Synonym *Alpinia nutans*, (L.) Roscoe
Alpinia speciosa, (Wendl.) K. Schum.
Catimbium speciosum, (Wendl.) Holttum
Languas speciosa, (Wendl.) Merr.
Zerumbet speciosum, J. C. Wendl.

Similar species

Summary *Alpinia zerumbet* is a lush, coarse-textured, clumping evergreen planted for its heavy rosette of arching stems and green leaves arising from a large loose center. *A. zerumbet* forms dense thickets in suitable habitats, for example on stream banks and shady slopes. It produces as many as a 1000 seeds per square foot. Seeds have fleshy appendages and are bird dispersed; they may be carried by water when it grows near streams. It also reproduces by rhizome division.



[view this species on IUCN Red List](#)

Uses

Ornamental; used as a medicine

Habitat Description

Alpinia zerumbet is a succulent plant of typically wet environment. It occurs in the mist region on Green Mountain National Park, on Ascension Island from 660 to 850 m (Gray *et al*, 2005). Green Mountain is the highest point on Ascension at 859 metres (Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, 2010).

Reproduction

Alpinia zerumbet reproduces by rhizome division. It also produces seeds, as many as 1000 seeds per square foot (PIER, 2008)



GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: *Alpinia zerumbet*

General Impacts

Alpinia zerumbet forms dense thickets in suitable habitats, for example on stream banks and shady slopes (PIER, 2008).

Management Info

Preventative measures: A [Risk Assessment for *Alpinia zerumbet*](#) prepared for Hawaii resulted in a high score of 10, with the recommendation to "reject the plant for import (Australia) or species likely to be of high risk (Pacific)" (PIER, 2008).

Pathway

Ornamental

Principal source:

Compiler: IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG) with support from the Overseas Territories Environmental Programme (OTEP) project XOT603, a joint project with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment

Review:

Publication date: 2010-06-08

ALIEN RANGE

[1] ANGUILLA	[1] COOK ISLANDS
[2] ECUADOR	[1] FIJI
[1] GUAM	[1] JAPAN
[1] MARSHALL ISLANDS	[1] MICRONESIA, FEDERATED STATES OF
[1] NEW CALEDONIA	[1] NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
[1] PALAU	[1] PUERTO RICO
[2] SAINT HELENA	[1] SOUTH AFRICA
[2] UNITED STATES	[1] WALLIS AND FUTUNA

Red List assessed species 5: CR = 3; VU = 1; NT = 1;

[Anogramma ascensionis](#) CR

[Pteris adscensionis](#) CR

[Ptisana purpurascens](#) CR

[Sporobolus caespitosus](#) VU

[Xiphopteris ascensionensis](#) NT

BIBLIOGRAPHY

12 references found for *Alpinia zerumbet*

Management information



GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: *Alpinia zerumbet*

[IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group \(ISSG\), 2010. A Compilation of Information Sources for Conservation Managers.](#)

Summary: This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc. [Lambdon, Phil; Stedson Stroud; Colin Clubbe, Alan Gray, Martin Hamilton, Matti Nissalo; Tara Pelembe and Oilivia Renshaw, 2009. A plan for the conservation of endemic and native flora on Ascension Island. A guide to conservation management, produced for the Ascension Island Threatened Plants Restoration Project funded by the Overseas Territories Environmental Projects scheme, DEFRA, U.K.](#)

Summary: Available from:

<http://www.ascensionconservation.org.ac/pdf/Ascension%20endemic%20plant%20management%20plan.pdf> [Accessed 18 October 2009]

[O Connor, Rhon, 2008. Anguilla Invasive Species strategy \(2008\) draft](#)

Summary: Available from:

[http://www.gov.ai/documents/Anguilla%20Invasive%20Species%20Strategy%202008%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.gov.ai/documents/Anguilla%20Invasive%20Species%20Strategy%202008%20(2).pdf) [Accessed 3 April 2010]

General information

Foxcroft, Llewellyn C., David M. Richardson and John R. U. Wilson, 2007. Ornamental Plants as Invasive Aliens: Problems and Solutions in Kruger National Park, South Africa.

Gray, Alan; Tara Pelembe and Stedson Stroud, 2005. The conservation of the endemic vascular flora of Ascension Island and threats from alien species. *Oryx* (2005), 39 : 449-453 Cambridge University Press

[Integrated Taxonomic Information System \(ITIS\), 2010. *Alpinia zerumbet* \(Pers.\) Burt & R.M. Sm.](#)

Summary: Available from: http://www.itis.gov/servlet/SingleRpt/SingleRpt?search_topic=TSN&search_value=182557 [Accessed 26 July 2010]

O Connor, Rhon, 2008. Anguilla Invasive Species strategy (2008)

[Pacific Islands Ecosystems at Risk \(PIER\), 2008. Risk Assessment: *Alpinia zerumbet* \(Pers.\) B.L.Burt & R.M.Sm., Zingiberaceae](#)

Summary: Available from: http://www.hear.org/pier/wra/pacific/alpinia_zerumbet_htmlwra.htm [Accessed 26 July 2010]

[Pacific Islands Ecosystems at Risk \(PIER\), 2009. *Alpinia zerumbet* \(Pers.\) B.L.Burt & R.M.Sm., Zingiberaceae](#)

Summary: Available from: http://www.hear.org/pier/species/alpinia_zerumbet.htm [Accessed 26 July 2010]

[Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, 2010. Ascension](#)

Summary: Available from: <http://dps.plants.ox.ac.uk/bol/Ascension/Home/Index> [Accessed 26 July 2010]

[USDA, ARS, 2010. Taxon: *Alpinia zerumbet* \(Pers.\) B. L. Burt & R. M. Sm. National Genetic Resources Program. Germplasm Resources Information Network - \(GRIN\) \[Online Database\]. National Germplasm Resources Laboratory, Beltsville, Maryland.](#)

Summary: Available from: <http://www.ars-grin.gov/cgi-bin/npgs/html/taxon.pl?101036> [Accessed 26 July 2010]

[USDA, NRCS, 2010. *Alpinia zerumbet* \(Pers.\) B.L. Burt & R.M. Sm. The PLANTS Database \(<http://plants.usda.gov>, 4 September 2010\). National Plant Data Center, Baton Rouge, LA 70874-4490 USA.](#)

Summary: Available from: <http://plants.usda.gov/java/profile?symbol=ALZE> [Accessed 26 July 2010]