



## *Hedychium gardnerianum*

### **Common Name(s):**

Wild Ginger, Kahili Ginger

### **Current Threat Status (2009):**

Exotic

### **Habitat:**

Terrestrial. Forests, regenerating forest, streamside and alluvial forest, forest light gaps and gullies. Prefers moderate to high fertility, not found in very dry or rocky areas.

### **Features:**

Non-woody perennial to 2 m tall, ginger-scented. Rhizomes massive, taro-like, close to ground surface, long, shallow rooted, much-branched, growing over each other, forming deep beds. Rhizome segments 4 x 10 cm, each producing an aerial stem usually annually. Stems to 2 m, erect, soft, unbranched, thickening to short pinkish collar at base. Leaves alternate, 20-45 x 10-15 cm, shiny, slightly hanging. Flowerhead 25-45 cm tall with many flowers, Jan-Mar. Flowers lemon-yellow with conspicuous red stamens, fragrant. Fruiting spike with fleshy orange fruits, 15-20 mm long, containing many bright scarlet seeds.

### **Flowering:**

January, February, March

### **For more information, visit:**

[http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora\\_details.asp?ID=4063](http://nzpcn.org.nz/flora_details.asp?ID=4063)



**Caption:** Auckland

**Photographer:** John Barkla



**Caption:** *Hedychium gardnerianum*

**Photographer:** John Smith-Dodsworth