

(c) BV

Costus afer Ker Gawl.

Family: Costaceae

Eng: African Spiral ginger

Perennial herb with aromatic rhizomes growing from 1.5 to 4 metres tall. Pale yellow flowers born on a cone. Red to orange capsule fruit with black seeds.

Moist shaded forest understory.

Attractive to bees, butterflies and sunbirds. Rhizomes, leaves, stems and sap are used medicinally.

Larval host to Oboronia bueronica (ginger blue)







Oboronia bueronica- Ginger-Blue (c) MGrimm