**Costus pictus** D. Don

Native from northern Mexico to Central America.

**Lyon L-92.0410**, Florida: Jack Craig, via D. Henkle. 1 planted 28 Jun 1993, 10' DH of A6-12-1 *Disoxylon*; in flower, Aug-Sep 96; only 1 infl (basal) had a flower, 23 Sep 2005. Voucher: AN 024 – HLA (1). Herb up to ca.2.7 m tall, clumping. Stem horizontally striped (brown & tan) at base; upper vegetative stem medium green with hairs up to 0.5 cm long at nodes with leaves. Leaves narrowly lanceolate, dark green above, lighter green below. Infl. both terminal & basal; basal infl. striped horizontally (maroon & green) along the length; small leaves present on basal infl.; bracts green with maroon color at outer margin. Flower yellow; lip with maroon striations, darker yellow stripe down middle; anther cream colored.
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Lyon L-80.0618, Surinam: P. Maas 72.371, w/ G. Daniels; via Foster 75.630. Planted between H23-5-2 and H23-6-2. Vouchers: KMN 2996 - U only; KMN 3365 – HLA. Confirmed as C. pictus by Maas 9/84, based on KMN 2996. Is a Central American species, not from Surinam. Produces rhizomes viviparously at old inflorescence.

Stems hirsute & green near apex, glabrous & purple toward base, 2-2.5 m ht., 2-2.5 cm diam. & hirsute at base. Leaves elliptic-oblanceolate, undulate-margined, 15-34 cm long, acuminate; petiole purple at margin. Infl. ovoid to cylindric, sessile, 5-7.5 cm long, 4 cm diam.; bracts green w/out, w/yellow costa, deep scarlet w/in. Bracteole red, 17 mm. Flowers showy; calyx red, 7 mm; corolla yellow, glabrous, 4-7 cm long; labellum longer than corolla, 5.5 cm wide, yellow w/red streaks; the lip yellow & pubescent w/in, recurved, several-lobed.
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