**Asparagus aethiopicus**

**Sprenger’s Asparagus-Fern**  
Asparagaceae

**Common Synonyms:** none

**Florida Introduction Date:** Earliest Florida specimen vouchered in 1968.

**Control Methods:** Mechanical: Cutting provides some control (IFAS, CAIP). Chemical: Foliar (1% glyphosate with 0.25% surfactant, retreatment necessary, IFAS, CAIP).

**Useful Resources:**  

**Comments:** Bird dispersed; salt tolerant; tolerant of low or high light conditions.

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**FLEPPC Category:** 1  
**FDACS Listed Noxious Weed:** No  
**IFAS Assessment**  
North: CAUTION  
Central: CAUTION  
South: CAUTION

**USDA Hardiness Zone:** 9a-11  
**Growth Habit:** Perennial herb  
**Origin:** South Africa

**Description:** Evergreen perennial herb emerging from a crown of tuberous roots. Stems stiff or arching to 2 m long. Branchlets flat, needlelike, light to bright green to 2.5 cm long. Leaves tiny, scalelike, at bases of branchlets. Flowers, small, white or pink, fragrant. Fruit a bright red berry.

**Habitat:** hammocks, scrub, beach dune, coastal berm, upland mixed forest, disturbed areas