PLANT FACT SHEET

Alpinia malaccensis (Burm. f.) Roscoe

GENUS *Alpinia* **FAMILY** Zingiberaceae

COMMON NAMES Malacca galangal, Giant white shell ginger

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Fruit, Rhizome, Root, Flower, Shoot, Seeds

The rhizome is occasionally used as a spice. They are dried.
The flower buds have a sweet taste.
The ripe fruit along with its seeds are eaten raw.

DESCRIPTION

A ginger family herb. The false stem is about 3 m tall. The leaf stalk is 2 cm long. It is grooved. The leaf blade is sword shaped. It is 90 cm long by 15 cm wide. It is hairy underneath. It tapers to the tip. The flower raceme is erect. It is 35 cm long. The fruit is a capsule and is yellow and round. It is 2 cm across.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in S China. In the Cairns Botanical Gardens. In Indonesia it grows up to 1,500 m above sea level. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seeds or division of the rhizome.

NOTES

It is grown as an ornamental. There are about 200-230 Alpinia species. They are mostly tropical and subtropical.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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