PLANT FACT SHEET

Kaempferia galanga L.

GENUS *Kaempferia* **FAMILY** Zingiberaceae

COMMON NAMES Resurrection lily, Aromatic ginger, Galanga

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Rhizome, Root, leaves - condiment, Spice

The rhizomes and leaves are eaten as a condiment. The rhizomes are dried and pounded and used as a substitute for turmeric.
They are used in fish curries and also served as a raw vegetable. The rhizomes are also pickled.
They are used to flavour rice.
The young shoots are cooked as a vegetable.

DESCRIPTION

A slow growing perennial herb. It grows 15 cm high. The rhizome has tuberous roots. They are fleshy. The rhizome is much branched crowded, tuberous and aromatic. The rhizomes are pale green or greenish white inside. The leaves have a mild smell like liquorice. It usually has two leaves pressed flat against the soil. The leaves are broadly oval. They are 7-20 cm long by 3-17 cm wide. They are green but often have a red upper edge. The flowers occur at the end of the shoot. The flower bracts can be 4 cm long and 1 cm wide. Each bract surrounds one flower. The flowers have a 4.5-5 cm long corolla tube and narrow lobes. Flowers are 2.5 cm long and are white. There are 2 varieties described based on the size of the leaves.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows in open areas in S China. It grows in open forests up to 1,000 m above sea level. It needs a temperature above 18°C. It needs a fertile soil. In Yunnan.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

It is grown from rhizome or tuber cuttings. It can be grown from seeds.

NOTES

There are about 50 Kaempferia species.

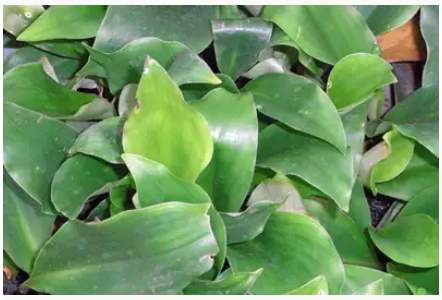
PICTURES



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