PLANT FACT SHEET

Tapeinochilos ananassae (Hasskarl) K. Schumann

GENUS *Tapeinochilos* **FAMILY** Costaceae

COMMON NAMES Backscratcher, Giant spiral ginger, Indonesian wax ginger, Pineapple ginger

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds

DESCRIPTION

A herb which keeps growing from year to year. It has underground stems. It grows 1.3-2.6 m high. It spreads 0.6-0.9 m wide. The branches are widely spaced in a spiral. The leaves are sword shaped. The flowers are tube shaped. They are orange-yellow. The bracts are pointed and waxy red. They are on a separate leafy stalk.

HABITAT

A tropical plant. It grows well in moist and humid locations. It needs fertile, organically-rich, well-drained soil. It needs bright filtered sunlight. In Cairns Botanical Gardens. It suits hardiness zones 11-12.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from bulbils or seed.

NOTES

There are 15-20 Tapeinochilos species.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)



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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/a3ab1396-db46-4949-ade7-77e766e189f6