PLANT FACT SHEET

Alpinia calcarata (Haw.) Rosc.

GENUS *Alpinia* **FAMILY** Zingiberaceae

COMMON NAMES Indian ginger, Miniature ginger, Snap ginger

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Rhizome, Root, Fruit, Spice, Flowers

The rhizome is used as a spice. It is used as a substitute for galangal.

DESCRIPTION

An evergreen herb with underground stems. It grows 1-1.3 m high. The leaves are narrowly sword shaped. They are 25 cm long by 5 cm wide. They are glossy dark green. They are prickly along the edge. The flowers are greenish white. They have a lip which is shell shaped. It has pointed erect bracts at the base of the flower. The bracts are red.

HABITAT

It is a subtropical and tropical plant. It needs regular moisture. It needs fertile, organically rich, well-drained soil. It needs some sunlight. It suits hardiness zones 8-11. In Yunnan.

NOTES

There are about 200-230 Alpinia species. They are mostly tropical and subtropical.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

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PROVIDED BY **Food Plants International**

French, B.R. & Maynard, A.R. Food Plants International Database. Food Plants International

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/c24c9f22-6eaf-4d7d-a15a-948b8028c43a