PLANT FACT SHEET

Aframomum cereum (Hook. f..) K. Schum.

GENUS *Aframomum* **FAMILY** Zingiberaceae

COMMON NAMES Guinea grains, Black amomum

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Seeds, Spice, Leaves

The dark red fruit are succulent and edible.
The leaves are used as a spice and flavouring.

DESCRIPTION

A ginger family herb. It has rhizomes or underground stems. It keeps growing from year to year and grows 2 m high and spreads 1 m wide. The stems are erect. They are leafy. The leaves are oblong and taper to the tip. They are bright green. They have parallel veins. The leaves are 25 cm long and sheath the stem. The flowers are mauve. They are in spikes at the ends of the plant. The fruit are acid. They are in long spikes. The seeds are brown.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It needs humus-rich moist soil. It is best in a protected shaded position. It is sensitive to drought and frost.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants are grown by division.

NOTES

There are about 50 Aframomum species.

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