PLANT FACT SHEET

Alpinia purpurata (Vieill.) K. Schum.

GENUS *Alpinia* **FAMILY** Zingiberaceae

COMMON NAMES Red ginger

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Leaves - flavouring

The leaves are used to flavour coconut oil.

DESCRIPTION

A ginger family herb. It is upright and keeps growing from year to year. The stems are leafy and cane like. It grows 1-5 m tall. It has spreading underground stems or rhizomes. These cause the plant to form thick clusters. The flower arrangement is at the top of the stems and is 25 cm long. The flowers have bright red bracts. The actual flowers are small and white on top of these bracts. The fruit are round capsules. These split open when the seeds are ripe.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It is best with part shade and moist conditions. It cannot tolerate frost. It does well in rich, wet soils. It needs an acid soil with pH between 6.0-6.8. In Townsville Queens BG.

NOTES

It has potential as a plant that can fight TB.

PICTURES



Credit: Food Plants International (Bruce French)

REFERENCES

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/cc9374af-dd47-4e83-8d0b-531a1b2d2bf9