PLANT FACT SHEET

Alpinia aquatica (Retz.) Roscoe

GENUS *Alpinia* **FAMILY** Zingiberaceae

COMMON NAMES Aquatic galangal

EDIBLE PARTS AND USES

Edible parts: Medicinal herb

DESCRIPTION

A ginger family herb. It grows up to 2 m tall. The leaves are on 1.2 cm long leaf stalks. The leaves are sword shaped and 15-22 cm long by 2-5 cm wide. They are leathery and bright green. The flowers are pink and in a group at the top. The group of flowers are 15-25 cm long. The fruit are round and 6 mm across. They are green and turn red then black. The are 3-5 angular seeds.

HABITAT

It is a tropical plant. It suits wet areas. It can grow in swamps from sea level to 800 m above sea level. It needs a temperature above 15°C. It suits the wet tropics.

PRODUCTION

Cultivation

Plants can be grown from seed. It is best to soak the seed is slightly warm water for 2 days before sowing. Seeds germinate in 1-6 months. Plants can be grown by division or the rhizome.

NOTES

There are 244 Alpinia species.
It is used as medicine.

REFERENCES

e-monocot.org/taxon/urn:kew.org:wcs:taxon:218651

Reis, S. V. and Lipp, F. L., 1982, New Plant Sources for Drugs and Foods from the New York Botanical Garden herbarium. Harvard. p 31 (As Alpinia fraseriana)

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ONLINE FACT SHEET https://www.echocommunity.org/en/resources/efeef854-358d-420a-b861-49ac4a7b3ec5