

SPECIES Alpinia caerulea 'Red'

COMMON NAME Native Ginger, Blue Berry Ginger

ORIGIN Eastern Australia

DESIGN USE A great understorey plant as its vigorous root system will allow it to establish quickly.



HEIGHT

3m

HABIT

Understorey perennial herb

FORM

An evergreen clump-forming plant with erect fleshy stems. Leaves are up to 40 cm long and 3-10 cm wide. Large, glossy leaves.

FLOWERS

The inflorescence is 10-30cm long. Long spikes of white, tubular, shell-like flowers borne for most of the year in warm regions

FLOWERING PERIOD

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FRUIT

The blue capsule is globose 1cm across, with a brittle outer covering containing black seed and white pulp. Both the berries and stem tips are edible and were eaten by the aboriginal people of northern Australia.

VARIATIONS

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CLIMATIC TOLERANCES

Growing under rainforest, gallery forest and wet sclerophyll forest canopy

HORTICULTURE

Light to heavy shade. It prefers moist shady areas, but can tolerate some sunlight. Propagation by seeds.

REFERENCES

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Alpinia caerulea http://www.daleysfruit.com.au/plant/Native-ginger.tm http://saveourwaterwaysnow.com.au/01 cms/details.asp

www.LA3.com.au