



GINGER INFORMATION

Ginger is a large family of exotic plants with tropical appearance and beautiful, often fragrant flowers. Of the thousands of species and cultivars grown throughout the world, many are hardy in Zone 8. In the Lowcountry, these hardy Ginger are perennial and will over winter in the ground. The further north of Zone 8 you are, the more protection you will need to provide for the winter.

Generally, Ginger prefers partial to light shading. Some will tolerate full sun if adequate water is provided. Our stock of Ginger is grown under the partial shade of large palms.

We recommend a rich soil that is well-drained and high in organic material. These are vigorous and fast growing plants, so it is important to prepare the site thoroughly for full growth to be attained and flowers to be enjoyed from the first year of planting.

- Pick a place with well-drained soil and partial shading (under trees) or on the north side of a building or home.
- Dig a large hole at least 3 times deeper and wider than your rhizome or pot and add at least half peat moss to the backfill and mix thoroughly.
- Fill the hole with this now 'soft soil' and plant your rhizome (covering to a depth of no more than 3"). If there is a crown on your rhizome, it should protrude above the soil; otherwise it is not important how you position the root.
- Water thoroughly after planting – then water sparingly (or not at all) until the leaves appear. After they appear, watering should be done on a regular basis to avoid leaf time burn (especially in sunny sites).
- A well-balanced, slow release fertilizer should be applied after leaves appear.
- An application of heavy mulch around the roots helps to retain moisture.

NOTE: On Ginger that flowers before the leaves come up, it is important to wait and fertilize after the leaves appear. We use Osmocote 14-14-14. Divide your plants every three to five years for continuing bloom.

****We have seen Ginger planted extensively in areas with high deer populations but have never heard of any of them being eaten.**

There are not many pests that attack Ginger in our experience. Spider mites may appear infrequently if the summer is hot and dry. If this happens, make 3 applications of Safer's Soap 5 days apart (be sure to spray late in the day to avoid possible burning of leaves).