

***Alpinia caerulea* Common Native Ginger ZINGIBERACEAE**



**Typical height:** 1-2m      **Spread:** 1-2m

**Climate:** Tropical, subtropical to warm temperate.

**Light conditions:** Part shade.

**Growth habit:** A large clumping plant with a vigorous root system.

**Growing conditions:** Endemic to Australia, occurring in Cape York Peninsula, North East Queensland, Central East Queensland, extending south along the coastal areas to central east New South Wales. Grows in rainforests at an altitudinal range of 0m - 1400m. Hardy, preferring humus-rich soils, shelter, and plenty of moisture.

**Flowers:** Sept – Apr.      **Fruit:** Throughout the year.

**References:** Cooper W., Cooper W.T. (2004) *Fruits of the Australian Tropical Rainforest*. Melzer R., Plumb J., Zich F.A., Hyland B.P.M., Whiffin T., Kerrigan R.A. (2020) *Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants, Edition 8*. <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest/>. Accessed 12/03/2024. Nicholson, N. & H. (1990) *Australian Rainforest Plants*.  
**Image Credit:** Hansen, V.

**Other:** The fruit is eaten by Cassowaries, Crimson Rosellas, King Parrots, Regent and Satin Bowerbirds, Lewins Honeyeaters; and Bush Rats, Giant White-tailed Rats, and Fawn-footed Melomys. A food source for the larval stages of the Banded Demon Butterfly.

**References:** Cooper W., Cooper W.T. (2004) **Fruits of the Australian Tropical Rainforest**. Melzer R., Plumb J., Zich F.A., Hyland B.P.M., Whiffin T., Kerrigan R.A. (2020) **Australian Tropical Rainforest Plants, Edition 8**. <https://apps.lucidcentral.org/rainforest/>. Accessed 12/03/2024. Nicholson, N. & H. (1990) **Australian Rainforest Plants**.  
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