



GINGER
Package of Practices



After Harvest in the field

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Ginger is commercially grown in almost all the states of northeastern region. Ginger is the main cash crop for farmers/tribals of the regions. The crop is so important that many farmers are solely dependent on ginger and from earning they purchasing other food materials required for their family. It is used in culinary, flavourant in beverages, confectionery, pickles and pharmaceutical preparations. But in this region it is mainly used for fresh consumption.

Soil and climate :

It is mostly grown as rainfed crop. It does not grow well in those areas where the temperature exceeds 32°C with low relative humidity. It requires light soil rich in organic matter.

Sowing time:

It is sown from April to May in this region. But the best time in middle of April when there is sufficient moisture in the soil.

Seed rate:

18-20 q rhizomes of 25-30 g are required for one-hectare land. The rhizome should be true to type and free from disease.

Method of planting :

Ginger is propagated from small rhizomes known as bits. Four to five cm long sprouted bits, weighing 25-30 g are separated from the mother rhizomes for sowing. Spacing

of 30 cm between rows and 25 cm between plants is considered ideal for ginger. Rhizomes are placed at a depth of 4-5 cm in furrows and covered with soil.

Seed treatment:

Seed treatment induces early germination and prevent seed-borne pathogens and pests. Seed rhizomes are also treated in hot water at 48°C for 20 minute before planting. The seed can also be treated with *Trichoderma viridea* @ 10 g/kg of seed.

Varieties suitable in the district:

There are many local varieties available in the region but the most suitable high yielding varieties are given below:

Nadia: It is high yielding variety, produces green ginger about 21-23 t/ha with dry matter recovery of 22.40 per cent. It has 4.2 percent crude fiber content. This variety is well adapted to this region. It is suitable for both fresh and dry ginger.

Thinful (local cultivar)

Manure and fertilizer:

Farmyard manure 20 tonnes/ha should be applied at the time of field preparation followed by N: P: K: @ 75: 50: 50 kg/ha. Whole of P & half of K applied at the time of planting. Half of N is applied 40 days after planting and remaining N & K month after that.

Earthing-up and weeding:

At least two earthing up is required for better growth and development of rhizomes. Earthing up should be done immediately after weeding and fertilizer application. Two to three manual weeding is also required for controlling the weeds.

Plant protection :

Leaf spot (*Phyllosticta zingiberi*): This disease causes extensive discolouration of leaves and finally drying of leaves take place. Application of Mancozeb @ 2g/liter of water is found effective to control the disease.

Rhizome rot/Soft rot (*Pythium spp., Rhizoctonia spp. and Sclerotium rolfsii*): The leave is the affected plants become yellow. Water soaked appearance found at the base of pseudostem and rotting takes place at the basal portion. The affected rhizomes become soft, pulpy and plants easily collapse on pressing.

Control : Spray Copperoxychloride, Ridomil (Mancozeb + Metalaxil) @ 2g/liter of water.

Harvesting :

Ginger becomes ready for harvesting after 8-9 months when the leaves started yellowing and drying.

Yield:

A properly managed crop gives an average yield of 20 t/ha in the region.