

COMPARATIVE YIELD PERFORMANCE OF DIFFERENT TYPES OF GINGER

Ginger (*Zingiber officinale* Rose) is an important spice crop of Kerala, cultivated in an area of about 23,000 acres producing about 11,000 tons per annum which forms 70 per cent of the total production in India.

Since time immemorial only a single variety of ginger is grown in the different localities of Kerala and nothing is known on the performance of the different varieties of ginger grown elsewhere. The present work was hence taken up at the Central Horticultural Research Station, Ambalavayal, to test the comparative performance of the different varieties of ginger collected from the different parts of Kerala, from other states in India and from other countries. Fourteen types of ginger shown in Table 1 were used in the trials which were repeated for five years from 1957-58 to

Table 1

Yield in pounds per acre of different varieties of ginger
obtained in different trials.

Ginger Types	1957- 58	1958- 59	1959- 60	1960- 61	1961- 62
1. Ernad (Chernad)	10345	20115	11694	...	...
2. Walluvanad (Perinthalmanna)	10759	11696	11323		
3. Burdwan (West Bengal)	14157	20115	13489	4538	17673
4. Ernad (Manjeri)	11253	16195	12561	4810	15314
5. Wynad (Kunnamangalam)	9619	9027	13056	5445	23005
6. Wynad (Manantoddy)	12433	18525	15150	7351	26022
7. Karkal (South Canara)	8803	7907	12870	5354	20645
8. Bajpai (-do-)	10618	10886	14595	998	11661
9. China (China)	...	...	18501	8712	13839
10. Rio-de-Janeiro (Brazil)	...	...	24069	9892	31966
11. Narasapattam (Andhra Pradesh)	...	...	16706	5445	25137
12. Mysore (Mysore)	...	...	15468	5717	18989
13. Himachal Pradesh	...	...	...	3721	13612
14. Sierra Leone	...	...	...	4991	14565
General Mean	11003	15058	14957	5581	19369
Standard error of the experiment	1252.5	1859.2	...	1722	2950
Critical difference	2605	2732	2878.66	2485	4247.10
Treatment difference significant or not	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

1961-62. Each variety was a treatment in the trials, cultivated in plots of 20' x 6' replicated four times and distributed randomised.

AH treatments received uniform cultural and manurial applications. A basal dose 10 tons of cattle manure per acre was given for all treatments. The crop was mulched with 10000 of green leaf per acre at the time of planting and 5000 lb per acre 45 days after planting. The harvest was conducted on the same date and the weight of rhizomes was recorded on the same day.

The average yield of ginger computed per acre of the different strains during the different years under trial with the results of statistical analysis are furnished in Table I.

It may be seen that during the first two years i.e. 1957-58 and 1958-59 when only eight types were tried, Burdwan, the type obtained from West Bengal recorded the highest yield. But during the subsequent years when other types were also included, Rio-de-Janeiro, the type obtained from Brazil consistently recorded the highest yield. During all years except 1960-61, its yield was significantly superior to all other types except China which was on par with that type. The yield of Rio-de-Janeiro was 73.6, 79.6 and 46.3 percent more during 59-60, 60-61 and 61-62 respectively over the yield of Wynad (Kunnamangalam) type which was the most widely cultivated type in the area. Except for the year 1960-61 when the yield of ginger was generally poor in the locality due to adverse climatic conditions, this type gave on an average 25000 lb ginger per acre.

Rio-de Janeiro is a vigorous growing plant with bigger sized, well formed rhizomes. The fingers are free and well set. Both in the mean weight per rhizome (11.8 oz.) and the mean number of fingers per rhizome (11.4) this type is superior to all other types tried.

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