

Variegated Shell Ginger

Alpinia zerumbet 'Variegata'

Variegated Ginger is an herbaceous perennial that is used in the landscape for its attractive foliage and shell-like flowers. The leaves of this plant are green and yellow variegated and are quite striking. They are 18 to 24 inches long and have a distinct spicy fragrance. This plant has outstanding ornamental features and could be planted more.

Type: perennial herbaceous

USDA hardiness zones: 9b through 11

Uses: specimen; border; mass planting; accent; suitable for growing indoors; cut flowers

Origin: not native to North America

Height: 6 to 9 feet **Spread:** 5 to 8 feet

Plant spacing: 24 to 36 inches

Light requirement: part shade to part sun

Soil tolerances: occasionally wet; acidic; slightly alkaline; sand; loam; clay

Drought tolerance: moderate

Soil salt tolerances: poor

Invasive potential: not known to be invasive

Pest resistance: no serious diseases or pests

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Photo: Susan Mahr, University of Wisconsin – Madison