

Review on *Zingiber officinale* in Siddha Medicine

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Siddha Medicine is one of the Indigenous Medicine of Srilanka. It is originated from the period of Hindu civilization. Herbal plants marked its importance in Siddha treatment. *Zingiber officinale* is the most popular herb belongs to the family Zingiberaceae. The rhizome of the herb is used in the treatments. It is commonly consumed dietary condiments in the world by the people. It is cultivated in South Asia. It is a well-known herbal medicine which is commonly used in Siddha Medicine in all over the world. Organoleptic characters, phytochemicals, pharmacological actions and medicinal uses are mentioned in many Siddha literatures. The aim of this study was to identify the organoleptic characters, phytochemicals, pharmacological actions and medicinal uses. 15 Siddha literatures and 20 research articles related to Ginger were collected from Library of Siddha medicine, University of Jaffna and websites. The data were collected, tabulated and analyzed. Out of 13 books, 10(77%) mentioned that *Zingiber officinale* possesses carminative and stomachic properties. Out of 7 literatures, 6(86%) mentioned that camphene, zingiberine, gingerol, and gingerone are the phytochemicals of the rhizome. 100% literatures mentioned that the Ginger is used in the treatment of fever and indigestive problems. Research articles reported that the Ginger has antipyretic as well as carminative and digestive properties.

Key Words: *Zingiber officinale*, Phytochemicals and Pharmacological actions