Medicinal Plant Images

Zingiber officinale and Acacia baileyana

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Figure 1: Zingiber officinale (ginger): Ginger is a medicinal and food plant that has been widely used in a variety of ethnomedical systems, including Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and Ayurveda, for thousands of years. Ginger is reputed to be effective at treating a wide variety of diseases and disorders including but not limited to muscular aches and pains, cramps, sore throats, fever, bacterial and viral diseases, parasitic worms, hypertension, indigestion, constipation, vomiting and diarrhoea as well as arthritis and rheumatism.[1] This photograph was taken in San Ignacio, Belize by Dr Ian Cock in January 2010.

Figure 2: Acacia baileyana (Cootamundra Wattle): The genus Acacia (family Fabaceae) is a large genus of more than 1200 trees and shrubs which are widely distributed throughout the world, with more than 700 species indigenous to Australia. The Australian species, including Acacia baileyana (pictured) had multiple medicinal uses by indigenous Australians, including being used to treat diarrhoea and hyperglycemia[2] and as a general antiseptic agent.[3] Many Australian Acacia species have been reported to have antimicrobial, molluscidal, antihypertensive and platelet aggregatory activities.[2] This photograph was taken in Hobart, Australia by Dr Ian Cock in July 2011.