

Curcuma ungmensis

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About *Curcuma ungmensis*:

- It belongs to the **genus *Curcuma*** (the ginger family Zingiberaceae).
 - It has been given the name ***Curcuma ungmensis*** after Ungma, the village in Mokokchung district where it was found.
 - Botanically it is a **rhizomatous herb**. The rhizome (subterranean stem) part is branched and found deeply buried in the soil. The species could be ideal for gardens.
 - It can be introduced in gardens as an ornamental plant for ground cover after proper domestication,
 - Flowering occurs during the rainy season from August to October. The flowers open in the morning and last a single day.
 - **Threats:** It faces “severe threat” from a variety of sources, including road development, building construction and natural calamities.
 - The family Zingiberaceae has 21 genera and about 200 taxa in India.
 - *Curcuma* is one of the most important and largest genera of this plant family, the best known being turmeric (*Curcuma longa*), black turmeric (*Curcumacasia*) and mango ginger (*Curcuma amada*).
 - *Curcuma* is widely distributed in **south and southeast Asia** and south China. A few species are also found in northern Australia and the south Pacific.
 - In India, the genus is represented by about 40 species, found mainly in northeast and southern States and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
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Q1: What are Rhizome plants?

These are horizontal underground plant stems capable of producing the shoot and root systems of a new plant. Rhizomes are used to store starches and proteins and enable plants to perennate (survive an annual unfavourable season) underground.

Source: [Researchers discover new species of genus *Curcuma* in Nagaland](#)

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/curcuma-ungmensis/>

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