



# Growing ginger without crop rotation

**Pov Huns**

**10/13/2015**

All of this can be done naturally  
without chemical fertilizers and  
sprays.

# Recap from previous year

## ● Last year

- We asked if we can grow ginger in the Mid-west using peat moss and straw?
- We have shown that it can be done without much difficulty.
- We get these plant to grow between 2-5 lbs/plant.
- Harvest can be done during the months of August through October.

## ● This year

- We wanted to see if nematodes would be a problem and if we could control it.
- Therefore we grew ginger under the same condition, in the same plot, and in the same spot.

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# Status Summary



- **Is project on track as expected?**
  - **Our project has hit a few bumps on the way but it has come along without much trouble, and has produced ginger as expected. However, harvests were delayed and reduced due to deer and ground hog damage.**

# First year's cost estimates.

## Expenses

- Ginger root stock (75 lbs certified organic ginger at \$6.99 lb from Whole Foods (\$525.00))
- High tunnel (20x96x10) \$2,500.00
- Drip irrigation supply \$250.00
- Straw mulch \$60.00 plus City Market donated 10 bales
- Cinder block 260 blocks @2.99/block plus taxes, \$780.00
- Potting soil for raised bed, 35 bags @13.99 each \$489.00

**Seasonal cost: \$899.00**

**Infrastructure cost: \$3,280.00**

## Income

- Sold at \$3.99 lb
- 20 lbs/ wk for 9 wks, plus 30 lbs for CSA

**Approximate income: (210lbs X \$3.99= \$840)**

# This year's cost estimates

## Expenses

- **Ginger root stock (60 lbs certified organic ginger at \$6.99 lb from Whole Foods (\$420.00))**
- **Drip irrigation (used)**
- **City Market donated 18 bales**
- **Potting soil for raised bed, 18 bags @13.99 each \$252.00**

**Seasonal cost: \$672.00**

**Infrastructure cost: 0**

## Income

- **Sold at \$4 per lb**
- **4 lbs/ wk for 6 wks, plus 20 lbs for CSA**

**Approximate income: (44 lbs X \$4= \$176)**

**Gross Production:**

**140 harvested**

**Sold 44 pounds**

**approx. 40 lbs of ginger left unharvested to date**

# Status against any goals

## **Production rate**

1-2.5 lbs/plant

## **Harvest time**

4 weeks in delay due to ground hog and deer problems

## **Problems:**

- 1. 9 out of 11 Asian farmer now grow ginger and are undercutting each other selling locally produced ginger for less than the imported product (\$0.50 - \$1.00 per pound).**

# Attention Areas



- **List delays and problems**
  - **Corrective actions being taken-fence**
  - **Harvest schedule is delay**
  - **Problem was not anticipated-since we only expecting larger animal (deer) not Ground Hog**

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# Schedules



- **Sprouting process**
  - Starting in February 9

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# Move to Hot House



- **Move to hot house in April**
- **Hardening process in May (10 days)**
- **Transplants after May 15**

# Production-Inside



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# Production-Outside



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# Harvest Inside



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# Harvest Outside



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# Other Issues

- **Problems solved**

- We have shown that we can grow ginger without crop rotation and without nematode issues.

- **Other issues that need to be solved**

- Marketing

- **Long-term outlook for project**

- nematode problem may still pop up in future years.
- profit margins may be lower than expected if market is flooded by too many growers.

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# Farm tour guests



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# Goals for Future



## ● Goals

- Continue looking for a cheaper way to produce high quality ginger root without adding cost
- **Issues that will need to be resolved**-pricing to where it will be profitable

## ● Current situation

- 9 out of 11 Asian farmer in the Kansas City, Mo Farmers' Market are producing Fresh Ginger using our technique but most of them are growing conventionally, and are under price (1-2 pounds per dollar).

# Resources

- **NCR SARE\_Grant**
- **KCCUA\_Farm Tour Organization**
- **Daniel Dermitzel-Consultant and design**
- **Katherine Kelly-Consultant and design**
- **Dr. Edward Carey-Consultant and designing**