

REGIONAL MARKET BRIEF

Ginger



About CAPA

A USAID-funded program, implemented by Improving Economies for Stronger Communities (IESC), focused on enhancing regional food security by increasing fruit and vegetable productivity, building the capacity of buyers and input suppliers, to strengthen relationships with farmers, and improving farm-level extension systems.

CAPA is being implemented in Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, and Trinidad & Tobago.

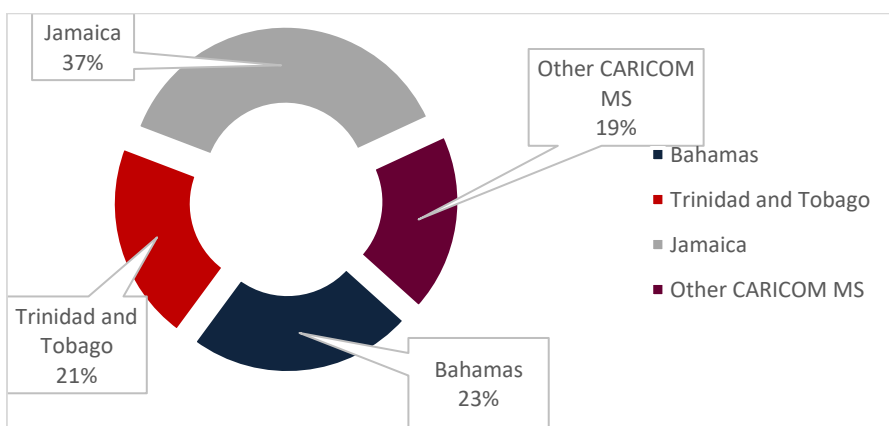
- **Objective 1:** Increase smallholder market-led production of fruits and vegetables.
- **Objective 2:** Improve domestic and regional market linkages for smallholder farmers.
- **Objective 3:** Strengthen public/private sector extension skills, capacity and systems to transfer best practices to smallholder farmers.

Ginger (*Zingiber officinale*) stands as a revered botanical treasure cherished for its culinary versatility, medicinal properties, and cultural significance. **Ginger** boasts potent health benefits attributed to its primary bioactive compound, gingerol. With the region's growing focus on promoting healthy eating habits and nutritional wellness and demand from the beverage industry, IESC is supporting farmers' capacity to meet the growing demand for produce like **Ginger** through the introduction of disease resistant planting materials and good agronomic practices.

Import quantities and values.

Three CARICOM Member States, Jamaica (37%), Bahamas (23%) and Trinidad and Tobago (21%) accounted for approximately 81% of all regional imports between 2018 and 2022 (Figure 1).

Figure 1: Imported values of Ginger by percentage by CARICOM Member States over the period (2018-2022)



Intra-regional trade for ginger remains limited.

Explore intricate details on the next page, where import dynamics and trends are uncovered.

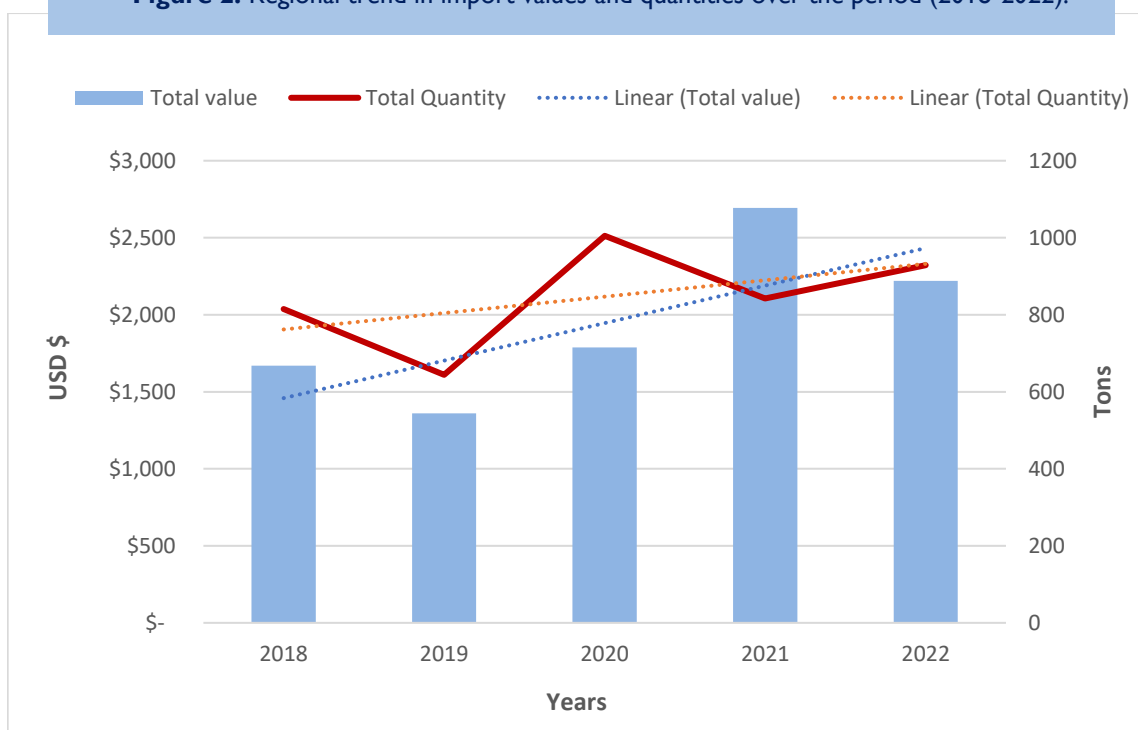


Table I: Total and Average values and quantities of Ginger imported by CARICOM Member States over the period (2018-2022) in US \$'000 and Tons, respectively.

Importers	Total Import Value US \$'000	Average Import Value US \$'000	Total Import Quantity (Tons)	Average Import Quantity (Tons)
Jamaica	3,630	726	723	145
Bahamas	2,280	456	668	134
Trinidad and Tobago	2,013	403	2,064	413
Saint Lucia	653	131	90	18
Barbados	551	110	492	98
Guyana	249	50	117	23
Grenada	173	35	73	15
Saint Kitts and Nevis	136	27	0	0
Haiti	28	6	0	0
Belize	11	2	3	1
Montserrat	5	1	5	1
Total	9,729	1,947	4,235	848

Source: <https://www.trademap.org>

Figure 2: Regional trend in import values and quantities over the period (2018-2022).



Explore the regulatory and market requirements for importing and exporting ginger on the next page.





Import Requirements.

- Phytosanitary Risk Assessment (PRA) required for the first entry.
- Plant Certification (PC) issued after inspection and in accordance with conditions of the importing country.
- Surface disinfection and disinfestation required.
- Import Permit (IP) to be obtained before commodity leaves exporting country.
- Valid Import Permit with stipulations must be issued from the importing country to meet entry requirements.
- Use of pesticides must conform to the regulations of the National Plant Protection Organization (NPPO) and collaborating agencies.
- Certification of freedom from soil and pests of plant quarantine significance.
- Materials must be fully dried and cured, free of bark, and extraneous material.



Export Requirements.

- Phytosanitary Certification (PC) required, issued no more than 72 hours before export.
- Surface disinfection and disinfestation of the commodity by the exporter, overseen by a plant quarantine inspector.
- Traceability of production, processing, and distribution maintained. Notification must be given by existing pack house facilities to the NPPO/Plant Protection Unit in the Ministry of Agriculture to ascertain pack house requirements.
- Consignee must follow the market guidelines for pre-harvest, harvest and post-harvest techniques.

Regulatory Regimes/Market Requirements

Quality Requirements:

Ginger must be intact, sound, and fresh in appearance, with a clean surface free from pests, damage, abnormal moisture, and foreign smells or tastes. The rhizomes must be firm, with a characteristic texture and aroma indicative of freshness. Two classes exist:

Class I: Good quality ginger, characterized by firmness, freshness, and absence of defects. The rhizomes should be well-shaped, free from blemishes or signs of deterioration, and suitable for immediate consumption or further processing.

Class II: Slightly lower in quality compared to Class I, with allowances for minor defects such as irregular shapes or superficial blemishes. While still suitable for consumption, Class II ginger may exhibit slight variations in appearance or texture.

Sizing: While ginger is not classified based on size, uniformity in rhizome size is desirable for consumer appeal. However, specific sizing requirements based on weight or diameter may be established for certain market segments or packaging specifications.

Tolerances: Tolerance allowances are permitted for deviations from quality standards, with a total tolerance of 10% for both Class I and Class II ginger. Deviations may include minor defects or variations in appearance, provided the overall quality and freshness of the produce remain acceptable.

Uniformity: Each package of ginger must contain uniform rhizomes of the same origin, variety, and quality. While size uniformity is not mandatory, consistency in appearance and condition is essential to meet consumer expectations.

Packaging: Must be packed in suitable containers to protect it from damage during handling and transportation. Packaging materials should be free from foreign matter and capable of preserving the freshness and quality of the rhizomes. Must carry clear labeling with essential identification details, including origin, nature of produce, and quality specifications.

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