

LABORATORY
OF THE
INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT
OTTAWA, CANADA.

BULLETIN No. 236

GROUND GINGER

OTTAWA, March 8, 1912.

W. J. GERALD, Esq.,
Deputy Minister of Inland Revenue.

SIR,—I beg to hand you a report upon 151 samples of ground ginger, purchased throughout Canada in October, 1911.

Ground ginger has been investigated and reported by this department as follows:—

	Total Samples.	Percentages.		
		Genuine.	Adulterated	Doubtful.
Bulletin 48-1896	98	67	28	5
" 95-1904	10	60	40	0
" 137-1907	30	97	0	3
" 184-1909	150	65	21	14
" 236-1912	151	84	9	7

The results of previous work on ginger have been synoptified in Bulletin 184, from which the following is reprinted:—

‘The usual recognized adulteration of ginger consists in the substitution of cheaper materials (flour, starch, &c.) or in the use of exhausted rhizomes, i.e., stock from which the valuable principles have been more or less completely removed by washing. The examinations which form the basis for reports above referred to, have regard primarily to the detection of adulteration as described. But each report contains an account of more or less investigative work, undertaken in the desire to put on record such data regarding ginger as should, at some future time, enable us to recommend the adoption of a definition of ginger, based upon its physical and chemical constants, and comprehensive enough to warrant its being made legal, under Section 26 of the Adulteration Act.