
Trees. Leaves ovate, entire, basally palmately 3–7-veined. Inflorescence terminal, cymose, forming a lax panicle. Flowers bisexual, zygomorphic. Epicalyx lobes minute, lanceolate. Sepals 5, free. Petals 5, unequal. Stamens 15; filaments connate into staminal tube, completely adnate to ovary stipe to form androgynophore, upper part of staminal tube enlarged and urceolate, enclosing pistil; anthers in 5 groups of 3, 2-celled; staminodes reduced to small teeth alternating with anther fascicles. Ovary on top of androgynophore, 5-loculed, 5-lobed; ovules 5 in each locule; style slender; stigma 5-lobed. Capsule membranous, inflated, loculicidal. Seeds 1–2 in each locule, globose, verrucose.

One species: tropical Africa, Asia, and Australia.


Trees, up to 12 m tall; bark gray, exfoliate. Branchlets gray-green, sparsely pilose. Petiole 3–5.5 cm; leaf blade broadly ovate or ovate, 5.5–18 × 5.5–18 cm, abaxially puberulent when young, adaxially glabrous, base cordate or subcordate, entire or sparsely dentate in upper part, apex acuminate or acute. Inflorescence a thyrose, to 50 cm, hairy. Flowers dense. Sepals pink, petaloid, ca. 6 mm. Petals pink, shorter than sepals, 1-cucullate, yellow at apex, shorter than others. Androgynophore long, hairy. Ovary globose, hairy, usually only 1 ovule developed in each locule; style glabrous. Capsule broadly pyriform to almost globose, 5-angled, 1–1.7 cm, greenish pink when mature, pendulous. Seeds globose, 1.5–2 mm in diam., black or dark brown. Fl. Mar–Jul.

Hilly or montane forests. Hainan, Taiwan [throughout tropical Africa, Asia, Australia].