

5. **GIRONNIERA** Gaudichaud-Beaupré, Voy. Bonite, Bot., Atlas, t. 85. 1844.

白颜树属 bai yan shu shu

Trees or shrubs, evergreen, dioecious or rarely monoecious. Branchlets never spinose, never corky or winged. Stipules firm, caducous, usually basally connate, enclosing bud, leaving a single transverse scar that completely encircles stem at each node. Leaves alternate, in several ranks; leaf blade margin entire or shallowly serrate; venation pinnate; secondary veins anastomosing before reaching margin. Inflorescences cymes or 1-flowered. Flowers unisexual. Male flowers: tepals 5, imbricate. Stamens 5; filaments short and erect. Ovary rudimentary, hair-shaped. Female flowers: tepals 5. Ovary sessile. Stigmas papillate. Drupes compressed or not; endocarp bony. Seed with endosperm or not; embryo twisted; cotyledons narrow.

About six species: SE Asia, Pacific Islands, Sri Lanka; one species in China.

1. **Gironniera subaequalis** Planchon, Ann. Sci. Nat., Bot., sér. 3, 10: 339. 1848.

白颜树 bai yan shu

*Gironniera chinensis* Bentham; *G. nervosa* Planchon var. *subaequalis* (Planchon) Kurz.

Trees, 10–20(–30) m tall, d.b.h. 25–50(–100) cm, dioecious. Bark gray to dark gray, smooth. Branchlets yellowish green or brown, covered with hirsute hairs. Stipules opposite, lanceolate, 1–2.7 cm, abaxially strigose. Petiole 4–12 mm, strigose; leaf blade elliptic to elliptic-oblong, 10–25 × 4.5–10 cm, leathery, abaxially green, scabridulous, and with appressed hairs on major veins, adaxially pale green and glabrous, base ± symmetric, margin bluntly serrate or subentire, apex shortly

caudate-acuminate; secondary veins 8–12 on each side of midvein. Rachis sparsely strigose. Male inflorescences highly branched. Female inflorescences racemose. Male flowers: ca. 2 mm in diam., tepals and anthers strigose. Infructescences with 1–5 drupes. Drupes subsessile or short-stalked, broadly ovoid to broadly ellipsoid, 4–8 mm in diam., laterally compressed; perianth and style persistent; endocarp reddish orange when mature, with 2 obtuse ribs. Fl. Feb–Apr, fr. most of the year.

Valleys, beside streams; 100–800 m. Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Yunnan [Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam].

The wood is used for furniture and other purposes, the bark fiber is used for manufacturing staple rayon, and the leaves are used medicinally.

