

3. OLAX Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 34. 1753.

铁青树属 tie qing shu shu

Trees or shrubs, sometimes climbers. Branchlets unarmed. Leaves alternate; leaf blade pinnately veined. Inflorescences raceme-like or spikelike, sometimes paniculate; rachis ± zigzagged before anthesis. Calyx cupular, truncate or obscurely dentate, greatly accrescent in fruit. Petals 3, margin entire or deeply 2-lobed, free or connate at base. Stamens 3, basally adnate to petals; filaments flat; anthers oblong; staminodes 5, 2-cleft. Disk annular. Ovary superior, 3-loculed below, 1-loculed above, placenta central, free; ovules 3. Style short or elongate; stigma capitellate, minutely 3-lobed. Drupe ellipsoid to ± globose, basal 1/2 to near apex covered by persistent calyx, 1-seeded; endosperm copious.

About 40 species: tropical Africa, Asia, and Australia; three species (one endemic) in China.

- 1a. Petals 3–4 mm, not 2-lobed; inflorescences 1–1.5 cm; leaf blade apex acuminate; fruiting calyx 0.8–0.9 cm 3. *O. acuminata*
- 1b. Petals 8–13 mm, 2 petals 2-lobed; inflorescences 1.5–5 cm; leaf blade apex acute; fruiting calyx 1.4–2 cm.
 - 2a. Drupe 1.5–2 cm, nearly covered by accrescent calyx; inflorescences 1.5–2.5 cm; pedicel 1–3 mm; petals blackish when dried 1. *O. imbricata*
 - 2b. Drupe 2.8–3.8 cm, basal 1/2 covered by accrescent calyx; inflorescences 3.5–5 cm; pedicel 3–10 mm; petals yellowish when dried 2. *O. austrosinensis*

1. *O. imbricata* Roxburgh, Fl. Ind. 1: 169. 1820.

铁青树 tie qing shu

O. wightiana Wallich ex Wight & Arnott; *Ximenia olacoides* Wight & Arnott.

Shrubs, sometimes climbers, 2–6 m tall. Branchlets brown. Petiole 5–10 mm; leaf blade elliptic to ovate-oblong, 5–10 × 2.5–3.5 cm, ± leathery, glabrous, base rounded, apex acute; secondary veins 6–9 on each side of midvein. Inflorescences usually unbranched, 1.5–2.5 cm; rachis zigzagged; peduncle 3–10 mm. Pedicel 1–3 mm. Calyx small, truncate. Petals white or yellowish, 8–10 mm, 1 entire and 2 2-lobed. Style to 1 cm. Drupe ± globose or obovoid, nearly covered by accrescent orange calyx, 1.5–2 cm in diam. Fl. and fr. Apr–Oct.

Forests or secondary forests; below 200 m. Hainan, Taiwan [India, Indonesia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand].

2. *O. austrosinensis* Y. R. Ling, Bull. Bot. Res., Harbin 2(4): 18. 1982.

疏花铁青树 shu hua tie qing shu

O. laxiflora Merrill ex H. L. Li, J. Arnold Arbor. 26: 60. 1945, not Ridley (1931).

Shrubs, sometimes climbers, 1–4 m tall. Branchlets brown. Petiole 1–1.3 cm; leaf blade oblong-ovate to elliptic, 8–18 × 4–7 cm, ± leathery, glabrous, base cuneate to rounded, apex acute to ± acuminate; secondary veins 7–15 on each side of midvein. Inflorescences branched or unbranched, (1–)3.5–5 cm, 5- or 6-flowered; peduncle 2–8 mm. Pedicel 3–10 mm. Calyx small, obscurely dentate. Petals white, 1–1.3 cm, 2-lobed. Ovary conic. Style 7–8 mm. Drupe red, ellipsoid to obovoid, basal 1/2 covered by accrescent calyx, 2.8–3.8 × 1.3–2 cm. Fl. Mar–May, fr. Apr–Sep.

- Forests, mountain valleys; 100–1600 m. Guangxi, Hainan.

3. *O. acuminata* Wallich ex Benth, Proc. Linn. Soc. Lond. 1: 89. 1840.

尖叶铁青树 jian ye tie qing shu

Shrubs, to 5 m tall. Branchlets yellow. Petiole 3–7 mm; leaf blade oblong to ovate-lanceolate, 6–10 × 2.5–3.5 cm, papery, glabrous, base cuneate to rounded, apex acuminate; secondary veins 9–11 on each side of midvein. Inflorescences unbranched, 1–1.5 cm, 3–8-flowered; peduncle 4–6 mm. Pedicel 2–3 mm. Calyx small, truncate, Petals yellowish, 3–4 mm, oblong-lanceolate. Drupe orange, ellipsoid to ovoid, basal 1/2

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covered by accrescent calyx, 1.5–1.8 cm in diam. Fl. and fr.
Mar–Sep.

Rain forests; below 500 m. Yunnan (Yingjiang) [Bhutan, E India,
Myanmar].

