

18. POIKILOSPERMUM Zippelius ex Miquel, Ann. Mus. Bot. Lugduno-Batavi 1: 203. 1864.

锥头麻属 zhui tou ma shu

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Conocephalus Blume.

Shrubs or tall, woody climbers, without stinging hairs. Leaves alternate, petiolate; stipules often caducous, intrapetiolar, connate, leathery; leaf blade often large, leathery, often prominently pinnately veined, margin entire; cystoliths in circular groups adaxially, along veins abaxially, either punctiform or linear. Inflorescences of solitary, axillary, dichotomously branched cymes, unisexual (plants dioecious); glomerules capitate, on swollen peduncular receptacles (in *P.* subgen. *Ligulistigma*, continental Asia group), in agglomerations, or free (in *P.* subgen. *Poikilospermum*, E Malaysia group). Male flowers: perianth lobes 2–4, free or slightly connate; stamens 2–4, filaments straight (in *P.* subgen. *Ligulistigma*) or inflexed; rudimentary ovary present. Female flowers: perianth lobes 4, clavate-tubular, decussate-imbricate. Ovary enclosed; style short; stigma capitate or ligulate (in *P.* subgen. *Ligulistigma*); ovule orthotropous. Achene oblong, ellipsoid, or ovoid, slightly compressed, either enclosed by persistent perianth (in *P.* subgen. *Ligulistigma*) or exerted from it; pericarp easily separating into 2 valves. Seeds with little or no endosperm; cotyledons ovate.

About 27 species: from Sino-Himalayan region through Malaysia to the Bismarck Archipelago; three species in China.

The systematic position of *Poikilospermum* is controversial. Morphologically, this genus is rather intermediate between the Moraceae and Urticaceae. Berg (1978) separated it and five other genera from Moraceae to establish a new family, Cecropiaceae. However, *Poikilospermum* has been here treated as a member of Urticaceae on the basis that the ovules of all species of the genus are orthotropous and basally fixed, a characteristic of the Urticaceae.

- 1a. Leaf blade pubescent abaxially, base cuneate or rounded; bracts ca. 2 mm; male perianth glabrous 1. *P. lanceolatum*
- 1b. Leaf blade glabrous or subglabrous, base rounded to cordate; bracts 6–10 mm; male perianth pubescent.
- 2a. Female inflorescences dichotomously branched 5–6 times; glomerules 1.2–1.8 cm in diam. in fruit; achene ca. 2 mm; stipules 1–2 cm, caducous 2. *P. naucleiflorum*
- 2b. Female inflorescences dichotomously branched 1 or 2 times; glomerules 3.5–5 cm in diam. in fruit; achene 3–5 mm; stipules 2–4 cm, persistent 3. *P. suaveolens*

1. *Poikilospermum lanceolatum* (Trécul) Merrill, Contr. Arnold Arbor. 8: 50. 1934.

毛叶锥头麻 mao ye zhui tou ma

Conocephalus lanceolatus Trécul, Ann. Sci. Nat., Bot., sér. 3, 8: 88. 1847.

Branchlets brown when dry; stipular and petiolar scars prominent, pubescent, soon glabrous. Stipules caducous, straight, 2–3 cm; petiole 3–10 cm, pubescent; leaf blade lanceolate or elliptic, 12–30 × 6–17 cm, lateral veins 7–13 pairs, glabrous adaxially, densely pubescent or subglabrous abaxially, base cuneate to rounded, apex acute to acuminate. Male inflorescences dichotomously branched 3–6 times, 3–6 × 2–8 cm; bracts ca. 2 mm; glomerules 3–5 mm in diam. Female inflorescences dichotomously branched 2–3 times, 2–3 × 2–4 cm; bracts as males; glomerules ca. 0.7 cm in diam., in fruit 1–1.5 cm in diam. Male flowers sessile, obpyramidal, ca. 2.5 mm; perianth lobes 4, dark red, glabrous; stamens 4; filaments straight, short. Female flowers shortly pedicellate, ca. 2 mm; stigma shortly ligulate. Achene oblong-ellipsoid, 3–4 mm, verrucose. Fl. Feb–May, fr. May–Jul.

Monsoon forests, wet places near streams; 700–1800 m. SE Xizang (Médog), SW Yunnan [NE India, Myanmar].

2. *Poikilospermum naucleiflorum* (Roxburgh ex Lindley) Chew, Gard. Bull. Singapore 20: 76. 1963.

大序锥头麻 da xu zhui tou ma

Conocephalus naucleiflorus Roxburgh ex Lindley, Bot. Reg. 14: t. 1203 A & B. 1829; *Urtica naucleiflora* Roxburgh.

Branchlets gray-brown when dry; stipular and petiolar scars very prominent, pubescent, soon glabrous. Stipules caducous, straight, 1–2 cm; petiole 6–10 cm, glabrous; leaf blade broadly ovate or elliptic, 10–22 × 7–15 cm, lateral veins 10–13 pairs, both surfaces glabrous, base rounded or cordate, apex obtuse or acute. Male inflorescences dichotomously branched 5–6 times, 4–7 × 4–8 cm; bracts ca. 8 mm; glomerules 4–6 mm in diam. Female inflorescences dichotomously branched 5–6 times, 5–7 × 6–8 cm; bracts as males; glomerules 1–1.3 cm in diam., 1.2–1.8 cm in diam. in fruit. Male flowers sessile, obovoid, 1–2 mm; perianth lobes 4, pubescent; stamens 4; filaments straight, short. Female flowers pedicellate, ca. 2 mm; stigma shortly ligulate. Achene oblong-obovoid, ca. 2 mm, verrucose. Fl. Mar–May, fr. May–Jul.

Monsoon forests, near streams; ca. 1600 m. SE Xizang (Médog) [NE India, Myanmar, Thailand].

This species is here newly recorded for China. The name was incorrectly recorded as “*Conocephalus naucleiformis*” in Index Kewensis and this error has been repeated by various authors.

3. *Poikilospermum suaveolens* (Blume) Merrill, Contr. Arnold Arbor. 8: 47. 1934.

锥头麻 zhui tou ma

Conocephalus suaveolens Blume, Bijdr. Fl. Ned. Ind. 484. 1825; *C. sinensis* C. H. Wright; *Poikilospermum sinense* (C. H. Wright) Merrill.

Branchlets gray-brown when dry; stipular and petiolar scars prominent, pubescent, soon glabrous. Stipules often persistent in upper nodes, strongly crescent-shaped, 2–4 cm; petiole 5–10 cm, glabrous; leaf blade broadly ovate, elliptic, or obovate, 10–35 × 7–23 cm, lateral veins 7–14 pairs, both surfaces glabrous, base broad cuneate, rounded, or cordate, apex obtuse or acute. Male inflorescences dichotomously branched 2–3 times, 3.5–6 × 3–7 cm; bracts boat-shaped, 6–10 mm; glomerules 5–7 mm in diam. Female inflorescences dichotomously branched 1 or 2 times, 4–8 × 5–9 cm; primary peduncle longer than secondary; bracts as males; glomerules 2.5–3.5 cm in diam., 3.5–5 cm in diam. in fruit. Male flowers sessile, obovoid, 1.5–2 mm; perianth lobes 4, apex incurved, pubescent; stamens 4; filaments straight, short. Female flowers: pedicel 3–7 mm; stigma shortly ligulate. Achene oblong-obovoid, 3–5 mm, verrucose. Fl. Apr–May, fr. May–Jun.

Moist places, rain forests, monsoon forests, near streams; 500–600 m. S Yunnan [Borneo, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam].

