

2. PYRULARIA Michaux, Fl. Bor.-Amer. 2: 231. 1803.

檀梨属 tan li shu

Sphaerocarya Wallich.

Shrubs or small trees deciduous. Branches many, terete. Winter buds large, grayish white sericeous. Leaves alternate, petiolate, thickly elliptic to ovate-oblong, membranous or stiffly papery, pinnately veined, lateral veins conspicuous, reaching to near apex, margin entire. Inflorescences often terminal on leafy axillary shoots, racemelike or thyrseoid with umbellate proximal branches, spicate, or cymose; female ones with flowers subtended by well-developed leaves, effectively axillary and solitary; bisexual flowers usually at apex of inflorescences, rarely 1-flowered, bracteate. Flowers paired or solitary, bisexual or unisexual (plants hermaphroditic or polygamous); perianth tube turbinate (very short in male flowers), lobes 5(or 6), patent, abaxially pilose, adaxially sparsely hairy behind stamens. Stamens 5; filaments very short; anthers ovate, cells parallel, dehiscence longitudinal. Disk slightly raised, flat, circular, usually lobed, lobes scale-like. Ovary inferior; ovules 2 or 3. Style tubular; stigma small, capitate, inconspicuously lobed. Fruit a rather large drupe, base rounded, apex truncate to slightly depressed, with conspicuous, relatively broad persistent perianth lobes and broad apical disk (more than 5 mm wide), exocarp thickly fleshy, endocarp bony. Seeds globose or subglobose; embryo surrounding apex.

Two species: Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sikkim; North America; one species in China.

1. *Pyralia edulis* (Wallich) A. Candolle in Candolle, Prodr. 14(2): 628. 1857.

檀梨 tan li

Sphaerocarya edulis Wallich in Roxburgh, Fl. Ind. 2: 371. 1824; *Pyralia bullata* P. C. Tam; *P. inermis* Chien; *P. sinensis* Y. C. Wu.

Plants 3–5(–15) m tall; bark gray; lenticels oblong. Branches yellowish brown, with or without spines. Petiole 5–8 mm, sparsely pilose; leaf blade 7–15 × 3–6 cm, papery or slightly fleshy, sparsely pilose, midvein adaxially depressed, lateral veins 4–6 pairs, base broadly cuneate, usually oblique, margin entire or ± wavy, apex acuminate or sometimes acute. Inflorescences terminal (or axillary), thyrses, proximal flowers

in pedunculate umbels or cymes, distal flowers solitary. Flowers bisexual or unisexual (plants polygamous); perianth tube oblong-ovoid, lobes 5, subtriangular, abaxial surface and pedicels densely pilose. Stamens 4 or 5; filaments ca. 1 mm, glabrous. Disk 4- or 5-lobed. Style short; stigmas 2. Drupe pear-shaped, 3–5 cm, base narrowed into robust stipe, apex nearly truncate, slightly sunken in young fruits, persistent perianth and disk enlarging to more than 5 mm in diam. Seed subglobose; endosperm oily. Fl. Dec–Apr, fr. Aug–Nov.

Forests; 700(–2700) m. Anhui, Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi, Sichuan, Xizang, Yunnan [Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sikkim].

The plants have medicinal uses.

