

6. SINOFRANCHETIA (Diels) Hemsley, Hooker's Icon. Pl. 29: t. 2842. 1907.

串果藤属 chuan guo teng shu

Holboellia Wallich subgen. *Sinofranchetia* Diels, Bot. Jahrb. Syst. 29: 343. 1900.

Woody climbers, deciduous. Monoecious or occasionally dioecious. Winter bud outer scales several to many, imbricate. Stipules small, caducous. Leaves long petiolate, pinnately 3-foliolate; lateral leaflet base slightly asymmetric. Inflorescences racemose, axillary, slender, elongated, many flowered; bracts subtending inflorescences persistent, scaly. Flowers small, unisexual, female flowers inserted basally on rachis and slightly larger than male ones, male flowers clustered apically. Outer and inner sepals subequal. Petals opposite sepals. Male flowers: stamens 6, free; filaments opposite petals; anthers slightly shorter than filaments; connective not apically protruded. Female flowers: carpels 3, sessile; ovules ca. 20, in 2 rows on wall adjacent to ventral suture. Pistillodes smaller than carpels. Fruit a berry, single, in pairs, or 3-fascicled in each node of infructescence, indehiscent. Seeds several to many, compressed; seed coat not shiny.

• One species.

1. *Sinofranchetia chinensis* (Franchet) Hemsley, Hooker's Icon. Pl. 29: t. 2842. 1907.

串果藤 chuan guo teng

Parvatia chinensis Franchet, J. Bot. (Morot) 8: 281. 1894; *Holboellia chinensis* (Franchet) Diels.

Young branches farinaceous. Winter bud outer scales large. Leaves crowded, usually fascicled; petiole 10–20 cm; lateral petiolules very short, terminal one 1–3 cm; leaflets papery, abaxially glaucous or grayish green, adaxially dark green, apex acuminate; secondary veins 6 or 7 pairs; lateral leaflets smaller than terminal one; terminal leaflet rhomboid-obovate, 9–15 × 7–12 cm, base cuneate. Raceme pendulous, 15–30 cm, clustered. Pedicel 2–3 mm. Sepals greenish white with purple stripes, obovate, ca. 2 mm, ca. 2.5 mm in female flowers. Male flowers: petals 6, fleshy, subobcordate, less than 1 mm. Filaments fleshy, free; anthers oblong. Pistillodes small. Female flowers: petals very minute. Stamines similar to stamens in shape but smaller. Carpels ellipsoid to obovoid-oblong, 1.5–2 mm. Stigma inconspicuous. Infructescences pendulous; fruit pale purplish blue, ellipsoid, ca. 2 × 1.5 cm. Seeds ovoid, 4–6 mm; seed coat brown to grayish black. Fl. May–Jun, fr. Sep–Oct.

• Dense forests along valleys, forest margins, among shrubs. Gansu, N Guangdong, Hubei, W Hunan, S Shaanxi, Sichuan, NE Yunnan.

