

10. HYP SERPA Miers, Ann. Mag. Nat. Hist., ser. 2, 7: 36, 40. 1851.

夜花藤属 ye hua teng shu

Woody vines. Stems with young growing tips sometimes tendril-like. Leaf blade entire, not peltate, palmately 3(–7)-veined. Inflorescences axillary, cymose paniculate, usually minute. Male flowers: sepals 7–12, spirally arranged, imbricate, outer sepals minute and bracteolelike, inner larger; petals 4 or 5, fleshy, usually obovate or spatulate, sometimes absent; stamens 5–10 [to many], free or shortly connate at base, anthers dehiscing longitudinally. Female flowers: sepals and petals similar to male; staminodes present or absent; carpels (?1–)2 or 3(–6?), style short, stigma entire or 3-lobed, reflexed. Drupes subcompressed obovoid to subglobose, style scar near base; endocarp bony, curved, abaxially rugulose and bearing transverse ridges radially arranged outside; condyle with 2 lateral cavities each with an external aperture or no aperture. Seed embryo terete, almost curved into a circle, embedded in endosperm; cotyledons subequal to or shorter than radicle.

About six species: S and SE Asia to Pacific islands and Australia; one species in China.

1. *Hypserpa nitida* Miers, Hooker's J. Bot. Kew Gard. Misc. 3: 258. 1851.

夜花藤 ye hua teng

Hypserpa cuspidata (J. D. Hooker & Thomson) Miers; *H. laevifolia* Diels; *Limacia cuspidata* J. D. Hooker & Thomson.

Woody vines. Branchlets sparsely to densely pubescent with yellowish hairs when young, glabrescent. Petiole 1–2 cm, pubescent or subglabrescent; leaf blade ovate, ovate-elliptic to oblong-elliptic, rarely elliptic or broadly elliptic, 4–10(–12) × 1.5–5(–7) cm, papery to leathery, both surfaces usually glabrous, rarely pubescent along nerves, adaxially glossy, base rounded to broadly cuneate, apex acuminate, mucronate, or slightly obtuse with a finely mucronate acumen, palmately 3-veined. Male inflorescences usually only few flowered, cymose to paniculate, 1–2 cm, rarely longer and more flowered, pubescent. Male flowers: sepals 7–11, outer sepals minute and bracteolelike, 0.5–0.8 mm, puberulent outside, innermost 4 or 5 broadly obovate or ovate to ovate-rotund, 1.5–2.5 mm, ciliate; petals 4 or 5, subobovate, 1–1.2 mm; stamens 5–10, free above or connate only at base, 1–1.5 mm. Female flowers: sepals and petals as in male; carpels 2; ovary semiglobose or subelliptic, 0.8–1 mm, glabrous. Drupes subglobose, slightly compressed, yellow or orangish red when mature; endocarp obovate, 5–6 mm. Fl. and fr. summer.

Forests, forest margins. S Fujian, C and S Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, S Yunnan [Bangladesh, India (Assam), Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand].

The roots contain the alkaloids limacine and fanchinoline, which are used medicinally.

