

75. **HESPERIS** Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 2: 663. 1753.

香花芥属 *xiang hua jie shu*

Herbs biennial, or perennial. Trichomes unicellular, simple and/or forked, these often mixed with glandular ones with a unicellular gland on a few-celled, uniseriate stalk. Stems erect, often simple. Basal leaves petiolate, usually rosulate, entire, dentate, or pinnately divided. Cauline leaves petiolate or sessile, similar to basal, sometimes auriculate or amplexicaul at base. Racemes bracteate or ebracteate, elongated in fruit. Fruiting pedicels slender or thickened, divaricate or reflexed. Sepals oblong or linear, erect, base of lateral pair strongly saccate. Petals white, lavender, purple, yellow, orange, brownish, or green, much longer than sepals; blade obovate or oblong, apex rounded or obtuse; claw strongly differentiated. Stamens 6, strongly tetradynamous; anthers oblong or linear, obtuse at apex. Nectar glands 2, lateral, ringlike or lunar; median glands absent. Ovules 4–40 per ovary. Fruit tardily dehiscent siliques, linear, terete, 4-angled, or slightly latiseptate, sessile; valves with a prominent midvein, torulose; replum rounded; septum complete, membranous; style obsolete or short; stigma conical, 2-lobed, lobes prominent, connivent or free, decurrent. Seeds uniseriate, wingless, oblong, plump; seed coat reticulate, not mucilaginous when wetted; cotyledons incumbent.

About 25 species: primarily C and SW Asia and SE Europe; two species (one introduced) in China.

1a. Plants eglandular or sparsely glandular; upper leaves shortly petiolate; eglandular trichomes simple and forked

..... 1. *H. matronalis*

1b. Plants densely glandular; upper leaves sessile; eglandular trichomes exclusively simple 2. *H. sibirica*

1. *Hesperis matronalis* Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 2: 663. 1753.

欧亚香花芥 *ou ya xiang hua jie*

Herbs biennial or rarely perennial, 40–80(–110) cm tall, pubescent with simple and forked trichomes. Stems erect, simple basally, often branched above, eglandular and often glabrous distally. Basal leaves withered by flowering. Middle and upper cauline leaves narrowly oblong, lanceolate, or broadly ovate, (2–)4–15(–20) × (0.4–)0.8–4(–6) cm, shortly petiolate, pubescent with simple and forked trichomes, base cuneate, margin denticulate or entire, apex acute or acuminate. Fruiting pedicels divaricate or ascending, (0.5–)0.7–1.7(–2.5) cm, eglandular. Sepals narrowly oblong, 5–8 × 1.5–2 mm. Petals deep purple, lavender, or white, obovate, (1.1–)1.5–2(–2.2) cm × 3.5–9 mm, apex rounded; claw 6–12 mm. Filaments 2.5–6 mm; anthers linear, 2.5–4 mm. Fruit terete, (4–)6–10(–14) cm × 2–2.5 mm; valves glabrous, constricted between seeds. Seeds oblong, (2.5–)3–4 × 1–1.5 mm. Fl. and fr. May–Sep. $2n = 24$. Xinjiang [native to Europe and SW Asia; cultivated and naturalized elsewhere].

2. *Hesperis sibirica* Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 2: 663. 1753.

北香花芥 *bei xiang hua jie*

Hesperis elata Hornemann; *H. matronalis* Linnaeus var. *elata* (Hornemann) Schmalhausen; *H. matronalis* subsp. *sibirica* (Linnaeus) G. V. Krylov; *H. matronalis* var. *sibirica* (Linnaeus) de Candolle; *H. oreophila* Kitagawa; *H. pseudonivea* Tzvelev; *H. sibirica* var. *alba* Georgi.

Herbs perennial or biennial, (25–)40–100(–140) cm tall, often densely glandular especially above, hirsute with simple trichomes to 3 mm. Stems erect, simple basally, often branched above, glandular and often also subsetose. Basal leaves withered by flowering. Middle and upper cauline leaves narrowly to broadly lanceolate,

(3–)5–10(–16) × (0.5–)1–3.5(–5.5) cm, sessile or subsessile, glandular and with simple trichomes, base cuneate, margin denticulate or subentire, apex acute or acuminate. Fruiting pedicels divaricate or ascending, 0.7–2.5(–3.2) cm, glandular. Sepals narrowly oblong, 5.5–7.5(–10) × 1.5–2 mm. Petals deep purple, lavender, or white, narrowly to broadly obovate, 1.5–2(–2.5) cm × 5–10 mm, apex rounded; claw 7–10 mm. Filaments 3–5.5(–6.5) mm; anthers linear, 2.5–4 mm. Fruit terete, (3–)4–10(–13) cm × 1.5–2 mm; valves sparsely to densely glandular, constricted between seeds. Seeds oblong, (1.5–)2–2.7(–3) × 1–1.3 mm. Fl. and fr. May–Sep. $2n = 14$.

Mountains slopes, shrubby areas, plains, near rivers; 900–2900. Hebei, Liaoning, Xinjiang [Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan].

The alleged differences between *Hesperis sibirica* (petals purple, 15–24 mm) and *H. pseudonivea* (petals white, 18–23 mm) do not support their recognition as independent taxa at any rank because white flowers can be found in many populations of *H. sibirica*, and there are no other characters that separate the two.

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