
*Cardaminum* Moench, nom. rej.

Herbs perennial, aquatic, rhizomatous. Trichomes absent or simple. Stems prostrate or decumbent, erect in emergent plants, rooting at proximal nodes. Leaves all cauline, pinnately compound, often simple in deeply submersed plants; petiole sometimes auriculate at base; lateral leaflets 1–6(–12) pairs, petiolulate or sessile, entire, repand, or rarely dentate. Racemes many flowered, ebracteate. Fruiting pedicels usually divaricate. Sepals ovate or oblong, erect or ascending, glabrous, base of lateral pair subsaccate or not saccate. Petals white or rarely pink, longer than sepals; blade obovate or narrowly spatulate, apex obtuse; claw absent. Stamens 6, erect, tetradynamous; filaments base not dilated; anthers oblong, obtuse at apex. Median glands absent; lateral glands 2, annular or semiannular. Ovules 25–50 per ovary. Fruit dehiscent siliques, linear or rarely narrowly oblong, terete, sessile; valves obscurely veined, glabrous, smooth or slightly torulose; replum rounded; septum complete; style obsolete or to 2 mm; stigma capitate, entire. Seeds uniseriate or biseriate, wingless, oblong or ovoid, plump; seed coat minutely to coarsely reticulate, not mucilaginous when wetted; cotyledons accumbent.

Five species: one in NW Africa (Morocco), two in Asia and Europe, and two in North America (N Mexico and United States); one species (introduced) in China.


*豆瓣菜* dou ban cai


Herbs perennial, rhizomatous, aquatic, 10–70(–200) cm tall, glabrous throughout or sparsely pubescent with simple trichomes. Stems decumbent or prostrate, erect in emergent plants, branched above, rooting at proximal nodes. Leaves all cauline, pinnately compound, 3–9(–13)-foliolate; petiole auriculate at base; terminal leaflet suborbicular or oblong, 1–4 cm, base obtuse, cuneate, or subcordate, margin entire or repand, apex obtuse; lateral leaflets smaller, usually sessile. Fruiting pedicels slender, divaricate or recurved, 5–12(–20) mm. Sepals oblong, 2–3.5 mm, lateral pair slightly saccate. Petals white or pink, spatulate or obovate, 2.8–4.5(–6) × 1.5–25 mm, apex rounded; claw ca. 1 mm. Filaments white, 2–3.5 mm; anthers oblong, ca. 0.6 mm. Fruit cylindric, 1–1.5(–2) cm × (1.8–)2–2.5(–3) mm; valves with an obscure midvein; style 0.5–1(–1.5) mm. Seeds biseriate, ovoid, 1–1.3 × 0.7–1 mm, reddish brown, coarsely reticulate, with 25–50(–60) areolae on each side. Fl. Apr–Sep, fr. May–Sep. 2n = 32*.

Streams, ditches, lakes, swamps, marshes; near sea level to 3700 m. Anhui, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Henan, Hubei, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Shaanxi, Shandong, Shanxi, Sichuan, Taiwan, Xinjiang, Xizang, Yunnan [native to SW Asia and Europe; widely naturalized elsewhere].

Cultivated as a vegetable and used medicinally.