
Herbs perennial or subshrubs. Flowering stems erect or ascending. Leaves alternate; leaf blade imparipinnate. Flowers bisexual, in cymes. Hypanthium almost flat or slightly saucer-shaped, enlarging in fruit. Sepals 5, persistent; epicalyx segments 5, persistent. Petals 5, red, dark purple, or white. Stamens 15–25; filaments filiform, persistent; anthers compressed globose, dehiscing by marginal slits, base cordate. Fruiting receptacle enlarged, ellipsoid or hemispheric, spongy. Carpels numerous; style lateral, filiform. Achenes glabrous or hairy. x = 7.

About five species: temperate regions of N hemisphere; two species in China.

This genus is often included in *Potentilla*.

1a. Herbs perennial; leaflets 5–7; petals dark purple, ovate-lanceolate, shorter than sepals, apex acuminate; achenes glabrous ................................................................. 2. *C. palustre*

1b. Subshrubs; leaflets 7–11; petals white or red, obovate, subequaling sepals, apex rounded; achenes villous .......... 2. *C. salesovianum*


Herbs perennial, 20–30 cm tall. Rhizome branched, dark brown, long, woody. Flowering stems ascending, branched near base, pale red-brown, hollow, glabrous in lower part, hairy in upper part. Radical leaves 6–16 cm including petiole; stipules mostly adnate to petiole, membranous; petiole 2.5–12 cm; leaf blade imparipinnate, 5–7-foliolate; upper cauline leaves: stipules ovate, foliaceous, apex often serrate; leaf blade 3-foliolate; leaflets sessile or subsessile, adaxially dark green, elliptic or oblange, 4–7 × 1.2–3 cm, abaxially villous, adaxially glabrous or slightly appressed pilose, base cuneate, margin proximally entire, distally sharply serrate, apex obtuse or acute. Inflorescence terminal or axillary, cymose, 1–5 cm in diam.; peduncle and pedicels pilose and glandular hairy. Flowers 1–1.5 cm in diam.; pedicel 1–1.5 cm; bracts conic, 3–5 mm. Hypanthium saucer-shaped, abaxially pilose. Sepals spreading, dark purple, triangular-ovate, 0.7–1.8 cm, both surfaces pilose, apex acuminate; epicalyx segments lanceolate to linear, 0.9–3 cm, abaxially pilose, apex acute or acuminate. Petals dark purple, ovate-lanceolate, 3–8 mm, shorter than sepals, apex acuminate. Stamens 15–25, shorter than the petals; filaments and anthers dark purple. Ovary dark purple, ovoid, glabrous; style filiform. Achenes numerous, yellow-brown, compressed ovoid, ca. 1 mm, glabrous. Fl. May–Aug. fr. Jul.–Oct.

Marshes, fens, bogs. Hebei, Heilongjiang, Jilin, Liaoning, Nei Mongol [Japan, Korea, Mongolia, Russia; Europe, North America].

2. **Comarum salesovianum** (Stephan) Ascherson & Graebner, Syn. Mittteleur. Fl. 6: 663. 1904.

Herbs perennial or subshrubs. Flowering stems erect, branched, red-brown, villous, farinaceous when young. Leaves 4.5–9.5 cm including petiole; stipules mostly adnate to petiole, scarious, abaxially farinaceous and villous, apex long caudate; petiole 1–1.5 cm; leaf blade imparipinnate, 7–11-foliolate, or 3-foliolate or simple on uppermost leaves; rachis brownish red, villous; leaflets alternate or subopposite, very shortly petiolulate or sessile, adaxially green, oblong-lanceolate or ovate-lanceolate, rarely obovate-lanceolate. 1.5–3.5 × 0.4–1.2 cm, papery, abaxially appressed pilose, often whitish farinaceous, adaxially glabrous, midvein abaxially slightly elevated, lateral veins in 4 or 5 pairs, obscure, base cuneate, margin sharply serrate, apex acute. Inflorescence terminal or axillary, cymose, laxly several flowered; peduncle and pedicels densely villous and farinaceous. Flowers 2.5–3 cm in diam.; pedicel 1.5–3 cm; bracts and bracteoles red-brown, linear-lanceolate, 6–20 mm, apex acuminate. Hypanthium obconic, fleshy, pubescent and white farinaceous. Sepals purplish, triangular-ovate, ca. 1.5 cm, abaxially pubescent and white farinaceous, adaxially appressed pubescent, apex acuminate; epicalyx segments purple, linear-lanceolate, 7–10 mm, abaxially pilose, apex acuminate. Petals white or red, obovate, 1–1.5 cm, nearly equaling sepals, glabrous, base shortly clawed, apex rounded. Stamens ca. 20; filaments 5–6 mm. Ovary cylindric-ovoid, villous. Fruiting receptacle densely villous. Achenes numerous, oblong-ovoid, ca. 2 mm, enclosed by persistent sepals and epicalyx segments. Fl. Jun.–Aug. fr. Aug.–Oct.

Mountain slopes, ravines, river banks; 3600–4000 m. Gansu, Nei Mongol, Ningxia, Qinghai, Xinjiang, Xizang [Afghanistan, NW India, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan].