

25. KERRIA Candolle, Trans. Linn. Soc. London 12: 156. 1818.

棣棠花属 di tang hua shu

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Shrubs deciduous. Branchlets virgate, arising from scaly buds, slender. Leaves alternate; stipules linear-subulate, caducous; leaf blade simple, margin doubly serrate. Flowers terminal on lateral branchlets, solitary, large, bisexual. Hypanthium shortly saucer-shaped, flat. Sepals 5, valvate. Petals 5, yellow, base shortly clawed. Stamens numerous, in several series. Carpels 5, free, included in hypanthium; ovules 2, laterally attached to middle of suture, 1 abortive; style apical, erect, filiform, apex truncate. Fruit an achene, laterally compressed, glabrous. $x = 9$.

One species: China, Japan.

1. *Kerria japonica* (Linnaeus) Candolle, Trans. Linn. Soc. London 12: 157. 1818.

棣棠花 di tang hua

Rubus japonicus Linnaeus, Mant. Pl. 2: 245. 1771; *Corchorus japonicus* Thunberg; *Kerria japonica* var. *denticulata* L. C. Wang & X. G. Sun.

Shrubs 1–2(–3) m tall. Branchlets green, usually arcuate, terete, angled when young, glabrous. Stipules deciduous after flowering, oblong-lanceolate, membranous, margin ciliate; petiole 5–15 mm, glabrous or pilose; leaf blade triangular-ovate or ovate, 3–10 × 2–4 cm, abaxially pilose on veins or in vein axils,

adaxially glabrous or sparsely pilose, base subcordate, rounded, or truncate, margin sharply doubly serrate, apex acuminate. Flowers 2.5–6 cm in diam.; pedicel 8–15 mm, glabrous. Sepals persistent in fruit, ovate-elliptic, glabrous, margin serrulate or entire, apex rounded to acute. Petals broadly elliptic, 1.5–2 × 1–1.8 cm, 1–4 × as long as sepals, apex emarginate. Achenes brownish black, obovoid or hemispheric, 4–4.5 × 3.5–4 mm, rugose. Fl. Apr–Jun, fr. Jun–Aug. $2n = 18$.

Thickets on mountain slopes; 200–3000 m. Anhui, Fujian, Gansu, Guizhou, Henan, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Shaanxi, Shandong, Sichuan, Yunnan, Zhejiang [Japan].

This species is used medicinally and cultivated for ornament.

