
林石草属 lin shi cao shu

Li Chaoluan (李朝銮 Li Chao-luang); Hiroshi Ikeda, Hideaki Ohba

Herbs perennial, creeping. Radical leaves alternate; stipules rather large, membranous; leaf blade 3–5-fid or palmately 3–5-foliolate; segments or leaflets crenate or incised at margin. Inflorescence laxly cymose, 1–5-flowered, bracteate. Hypanthium long obconic or turbinate. Sepals 5, valvate, persistent; epicalyx segments 5, minute or absent. Petals 5, subequaling or longer than sepals. Stamens numerous, in 3 series; filaments persistent. Disk lining mouth of hypanthium. Carpels 2–6, inserted on short, villous receptacle, small; ovule solitary, ascending; style subterminal, filiform, deciduous above articulate base; stigma capitate, entire. Achenes dry or slightly fleshy, hairy, apex scarred. Seed erect; testa membranous. \( x = 7 \).

About six species: N temperate zone; one species in China.


光叶林石草 guang ye lin shi cao


Rhizome prostrate. Radical leaves 7–10 cm including petiole; stipules brown, abaxially subglabrous, margin ciliate; petiole glabrous or apically pilose; leaf blade 3-foliolate; petiolules short, sparsely pilose; leaflet blade abaxially purplish, adaxially green, rhombic-ovate to obovate, 1–4 \( \times \) 1–3.5 cm, both surfaces sparsely pilose or glabrescent, base cuneate or broadly so, margin crenate, distally 3–5-lobed, apex obtuse to acute; cauline leaf solitary or reduced. Flowering stems 7–20 cm tall, glabrous; cyme 1–3-flowered; bracts ovate-lanceolate, membranous, margin entire. Flowers 1–2.5 cm in diam.; pedicel glabrous, rarely slightly pubescent. Sepals triangular-ovate, glabrous or abaxially sparsely pilose, apex acuminate or 2- or 3-serrate; epicalyx segments lanceolate, much shorter than sepals. Petals yellow, elliptic to rhombic-elliptic, nearly 2 \( \times \) as long as sepals. Achenes black-brown, cylindric to obliquely obovoid, 2–3 mm, white villous. Fl. and fr. May–Jun.

Damp forests; 700–1000 m. S Jilin (Changbai Shan) [Japan, E Russia (Sakhalin, E Siberia); C and E Europe].

The eastern Asian and European populations are widely disjunct, separated by over 5000 km.

Waldsteinia ternata var. glabriuscula T. T. Yu & C. L. Li was described in FRPS (p. 233) based on a difference in the indumentum of the stems and leaves; however stem and leaf hairiness in this species is variable, and it is difficult to distinguish taxa on this basis. The name is anyway invalid because no Latin description or diagnosis was provided (St. Louis Code, Art. 36.1).