
补骨脂属  bu gu zhi shu

Shrublets or herbs, with black glands, especially on calyx. Leaves digitately or pinnately 1–5-foliolate; stipules embracing stem by broad base; leaflets entire or denticulate. Inflorescences axillary, capitate, spicate, racemose, or fasciculate; bracts membranous, each often embracing 2 or 3 flowers. Calyx 5-toothed. Corolla purple, blue, or white; petals subequal in length, clawed. Stamens dia-deltal; vexillary stamen free or ± connate with others. Ovary sessile or shortly stipitate, 1-ovuled. Legume ovoid, indehiscent, with persistent calyx; pericarp adhering to seed. Seed without strophiole, with very short funicle.

About 33 species: mostly in Australia (ca. 23 species), one in Indonesia, one from China through India and Oman to Somalia, three in SW Asia, two in the Mediterranean region, and about three in S Africa; one species in China.


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Psoralea corylifolia Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 2: 762. 1753; Lotodes corylifolia (Linnaeus) Kuntze; P. pattersoniae Schönland; Trifolium unifolium Forsskál.

Herbs, annual, 60–150 cm tall. Stems erect, branched, sparsely white puberulent, gland-dotted. Leaves 1-foliolate, sometimes with a much smaller lateral leaflet; stipules falcate, 7–8 mm; petiole 2–4.5 cm; leaf blade broadly ovate, 4.5–9 × 3–6 cm, both surfaces subglabrescent and black gland-dotted, base rounded or subcordate, margin undulate or irregularly coarsely dentate, apex obtuse or acute. Inflorescence axillary, densely congested, capitulate or shortly racemose, 10–30-flowered; peduncles 3–7 cm; bracts membranous. Calyx 4–6 mm. Corolla blue to yellowish; standard obovate, ca. 5.5 mm. Legume black, ovoid, ca. 5 mm, glabrous, apex with a short tip, irregularly reticulate. Seed dark brown, reniform, 3–5 × 2–4 mm. Fl. Jul–Aug, fr. Sep–Oct.

Warm valleys, cultivated in C and E China. Guizhou, Sichuan, Yunnan [Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka; E Africa (Somalia), SW Asia (S Arabian Peninsula)].

Cullen corylifolium is used medicinally.