
植物属 け teng shu

Climbers, woody, or scendent shrubs, large, usually unarmed. Leaves bipinnate; stipules small, sessile; petiolar gland absent; terminal pair of pinnae sometimes transformed into a tendril; leaflets opposite, 1 to many pairs. Spikes axillary or supra-axillary, slender, solitary or arranged in a racemelike panicle. Flowers bisexual or polygamous, 5-merous, sessile. Calyx campanulate, shortly dentate. Petals free or slightly united at base. Stamens 10, shortly connate at base and adnate to petals, much exserted; anthers with a deciduous gland at apex; filaments filiform. Ovary subsessile; ovules numerous; style filiform; stigma minute. Legume straight or curved to spirally twisted, plano-compressed, large and long, leathery or woody; valves splitting transversely at maturity into 1-seeded segments; segments falling away from suture, which persists as an empty frame. Seeds globose to orbicular, large; testa brown, thick, without pleurogram (in Asia).

About 30 species: mainly in tropical Africa and the Americas; three species in China.

1a. Shrubs, trailing or scendent, with large fleshy tuber underground; leaflets 8–11 pairs per pinna, 1.1–1.9 × 0.4–0.8 cm ................................. 1. E. parvifolia

1b. Climbers, very large, without fleshy tuber; leaflets 1–5 pairs per pinna, 2.3–9 × 1.3–4.5 cm.

2a. Leaflets 1 or 2 pairs per pinna; legume with a parchmentlike endocardp ........................................ 2. E. phaseoloides

2b. Leaflets 3 or 4(or 5) pairs per pinna; legume with a woody endocardp ........................................ 3. E. rheedii


Entada philippinensis Gagnepain.

Shrubs, scendent, with large, fleshy tuber underground. Stems terete, glabrous. Pinnae 2 pairs, 4.5–7.5 cm; leaflets 8–11 pairs per pinna, obliquely oblong, 1.1–1.9 cm × 4–8 mm, base half cuneate, half rounded, apex rounded to mucronulate or slightly emarginate. Spikes supra-axillary, ca. 15 cm. Flowers bisexual or male. Calyx cup-shaped, to 1 mm. Petals oblong-linear, ca. 3 mm, apex mucronate. Stamens 5.5–7 mm. Ovary ca. 1.5 mm, glabrous. Legume dark brown, oblong, ca. 30 × 5 cm; segments 2.3–3 cm, epicarp rigidly papery, endocarp thinly parchmentlike. Seeds dark brown, irregularly ovoid, ca. 1.8 × 1.6 cm. Fl. and fr. Aug–Nov.

Forests; 100–600 m. Taiwan (Hengchun Peninsula) [Japan (Ryukyu Islands), Philippines].

2. Entada phaseoloides (Linnaeus) Merrill, Philipp. J. Sci., C, 9: 86. 1914.燕豆 yan jing dou

Entada koshunensis Hayata & Kanehira; E. scandens (Linnaeus) Bentham; Mimosa scandens Linnaeus.

Climbers, evergreen, large, woody. Stems often spirally twisted. Branches glabrous. Leaves 10–25 cm; petiole short; pinnae usually 2 pairs; leaflets 1 or 2 pairs, apical pair of pinnae transformed into a tendril, elliptic to oblong, 3–9 × 1.5–4.5 cm, leathery, base slightly oblique, apex obtuse, emarginate. Spikes 15–25 cm, solitary or arranged in a panicle, villos; bracts pubescent. Flowers slightly fragrant. Calyx campanulate, ca. 2 mm, 5-toothed. Petals 5, green with reddish base, oblong, ca. 4 mm, glabrous, slightly united at base, apex acute. Stamens white, slightly longer than corolla. Ovary glabrous; style filiform. Legume curved, flat, to 1 m × 8–12 cm, with a parchmentlike endocardp. Seeds dark brown, orbicular, flat, 4–6 cm in diam.; testa brown, brilliant, woody. Fl. Mar–Jun, fr. Aug–Nov. 2n = 28.

Forests; 200–1300 m. Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Taiwan, Yunnan, Xizang, Yunnan [tropical and subtropical Asia; tropical Australia].

This plant is poisonous; it is used medicinally.

3. Entada rheedii Sprengel, Syst. Veg. 2: 325. 1825.眼镜豆 yan jing dou


Climbers, woody. Pinnae 2 pairs, 5–15 cm; leaflets 3 or 4(or 5) pairs per pinna, opposite, obvolute to elliptic-lanceolate, unequally sided, 2.3–7 × 1.3–3.5 cm, papery, abaxially glaucous, base rounded to broadly cuneate, apex acuminate to obtuse, or emarginate. Spikes terminal or fasciculate, axillary, 12–25 cm. Flowers male or bisexual. Calyx green, cup-shaped, 0.8–1 mm. Petals white, narrowly elliptic to lanceolate, 2.8–3 mm. Stamens white, turning yellow, 5–6.5 mm. Ovary glabrous. Legume straight to slightly curved, to 2 m × 7–15 cm; segments 6.5–7.5 cm, epicarp and endocardp woody. Seeds brown, brilliant, suborbicular, flat, 3.5–4 × ca. 1 cm. Fl. Mar–Apr, fr. Aug–Oct.

Forests; 100–900 m. Fujian, Guangdong, Hainan, Taiwan, Xizang, Yunnan [tropical Asia; E Africa, Australia, Indian Ocean islands (Mascarene Islands)].

The bark and seeds contain saponin, which is used as a substitute for soap.