
Herbs, perennial. Taproot thick. Stem very short or nearly absent, with a rosette of leaves at soil surface. Leaves imparipinnate, rarely 1-foliolate; stipules adnate to petiole or free; stipels absent; petiolules short or leaflets nearly sessile, leaflets ovate, lanceolate, elliptic, oblong, or linear, rarely orbicular. Flowers purple, pink, or yellow, 3–8(–12) per umbel on axillary peduncles. Calyx campanulate, densely appressed villous, rarely glabrous, 5-toothed; upper 2 teeth broader. Standard ovate or orbicular, narrowing to claw at base, retuse at apex; wings free, obovate-oblong, slightly shorter than standard; keel ovate, very short. Stamens diadelphous. Ovary sessile, many ovuled; style short, rolled inward at apex; stigma broad. Legume cylindric or linear, not sepalate, with many seeds. Seeds triangular-reniform.

About 12 species: from Russia (Siberia) to the Sino-Himalayan region; three species (two endemic) in China.


**Astragalus henryi** (Ulbrich) C. Y. Wu ex H. P. Tsui.

Stems to 5 cm, woody, branched, with basal rosette of leaves. Leaves imparipinnate, 2–9 cm, pilose or glabrescent; stipules nearly sessile, leaflets oblong or ovate, 3–10 × 2–5 mm, abaxially pubescent, adaxially glabrous, apex rounded, obviously mucronate. Umbels 4 or 5-flowered; rachis ca. 10 cm, sparingly pilose or glabrous; bracts narrowly lanceolate, ca. 3.5 mm. Corolla purple; standard broadly ovate, ca. 14 × 8 mm, apex acuminate, retuse; wings elliptic, ca. 11.5 × 3.5 mm, claw short, ca. 1.5 mm, keel ca. 5.5 × 2.5 mm, claw ca. 2 mm. Ovary oblong, villous. Legume ca. 1.5 cm, pilose. Seeds reniform.

Grasslands; ca. 100 m. Hubei, Sichuan.


Roadsides, grasslands, hillsides, valleys, meadows, terraced fields, margins of farms, riverbanks, sandy soil, sea bluffs; sea level to 340 m. Gansu, Hebei, Heilongjiang, Henan, Hubei, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Jilin, Liaoning, Nei Mongol, Ningxia, Qinghai, Shanxi, Shandong, Shanxi, Sichuan, Tianjin, Yunnan, Zhejiang [India, Laos, Mongolia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Russia].


*Gueldenstaedtia guangxiensis* W. L. Sha & X. X. Chen.

Taproot straight. Stems many from root crown, with basal rosettes of leaves and rachis. Leaves (3–)3.5–7.5(–13) cm, 5–13-foliolate; petiole slender, pilose; petiolules very short; leaflets orbicular to ovate or elliptic, (5–)6–9(–10) × (3–)5–7(–8) mm, both surfaces pilose or abaxially villous and adaxially glabrous, base rounded, apex truncate or notched, or obtuse or acute and with mucro. Umbel 2- or 3(–12)-flowered; rachis equal to leaves or longer, slender; bracts narrowly triangular or linear; pedicel very short; bracteoles adnate to base of calyx. Calyx (5–)7 mm, densely appressed villous, 5-toothed; upper 2 teeth larger. Corolla purple; standard oblong or obovate, ca. 11 × (6–)7 mm; wings obovate, (7–)9 × ca. 3 mm, claw (1.5–)2 mm; keel ovate, (3–)5 mm. Ovary oblong or cylindric, villous; style glabrous, rolled inward. Legume conical or cylindric, (1–)1.5(–1.7) cm, ca. 3 mm in diam., pilose, valves twisted after dehiscence. Seeds reniform. Fl. (Jan–Feb or)May, fr. (Apr–May or)Aug.

- Meadows and bushes on slopes of hills; 1100–1600 m. Guangxi, Hebei, Shanxi.