

48. PIPTANTHUS Sweet, Brit. Fl. Gard. 3: t. 264. 1828.

黄花木属 huang hua mu shu

Shrubs, 1–4 m tall. Leaves digitately 3-foliolate, entire; stipules large, opposite to petiole, basal 2/3 fused and surrounding stem, leaving a prominent scar when fallen, free apical portion acute. Racemes terminal, with 2 or 3 flowers at nodes, in whorls; bracts stipulelike, connected at base into a sheath, deciduous; bracteoles absent. Calyx 5-toothed, proximal 2 lobes mainly fused with a bifid tip, falling after flowering at articulation surrounding perigynous line. Corolla yellow, petals subequal. Stamens free; anthers uniform. Ovary stipitate; ovules 2–10. Legume broadly linear, stipitate, thinly leathery, compressed, continuous inside. Seeds reniform, with a minute strophiole.

Two species: Bhutan, China, India, Kashmir, Nepal; two species (one endemic) in China.

- 1a. Keel equaling or slightly longer than standard; stems and calyces white woolly; leaflets yellow silky abaxially when young, then glabrescent; legume glabrous 1. *P. nepalensis*
- 1b. Keel slightly shorter than standard; leaflets densely tomentose abaxially, even when mature; legume rusty tomentose 2. *P. tomentosus*

1. *Piptanthus nepalensis* (Hooker) Sweet, Brit. Fl. Gard. 3: t. 264. 1828.

黄花木 huang hua mu

Baptisia nepalensis Hooker, Exot. Fl. 2: 131. 1824; *Piptanthus bicolor* Craib; *P. bombycinus* C. Marquand; *P. concolor* Harrow ex Craib; *P. concolor* subsp. *harrovi* Stapf; *P. concolor* subsp. *yunnanensis* Stapf; *P. forrestii* Craib; *P. laburnifolius* (D. Don) Stapf; *P. laburnifolius* f. *nepalensis* Stapf; *P. laburnifolius* f. *sikkimensis* Stapf; *P. leiocarpus* Stapf; *P. leiocarpus* var. *sericopetalus* P. C. Li; *P. nepalensis* f. *leiocarpus* (Stapf) S. Q. Wei; *P. nepalensis* var. *leiocarpus* (Stapf) X. Y. Zhu; *P. nepalensis* f. *sericopetalus* (P. C. Li) S. Q. Wei; *P. nepalensis* var. *sericopetalus* (P. C. Li) X. Y. Zhu; *Thermopsis laburnifolia* D. Don.

Shrubs, 1.5–3 m tall. Stems terete, ridged, white woolly to appressed pubescent, glabrescent. Stipules lanceolate to ovate, 7–14 mm; petiole 1–3 cm, with a wide groove adaxially; leaflets elliptic, oblong-elliptic, or linear-ovate, 4–14 × 1.5–4 cm, flat on both surfaces, papery, dark green, yellow silky and white appressed pubescent abaxially, gradually glabrescent, becoming glaucous, glabrous or sparsely hairy along midrib adaxially, lateral veins 6–8 pairs, base cuneate, margins sometimes ciliate, apex acute or acuminate. Racemes terminal, 5–8 cm, with flowers in 2–7 whorls, axis densely white woolly, elongating at anthesis; bracts broadly ovate to obovate, 7–12 mm, acute; pedicels 1.5–2.5 cm. Calyx campanulate, 1–1.6 cm, white woolly. Corolla bright yellow, 1.8–2.6 cm; standard orbicular to broadly cordate, with 4–6 mm claw; wings shorter; keel equal to or slightly longer than standard, to 2.2 cm. Ovary stipitate, densely sericeous to almost glabrous, 4–10-ovuled. Legume broadly linear, flat, 7–15 × 0.9–1.5 cm, stipitate, apex sharply pointed; valves membranous, reticulate, glabrous to very sparsely pubescent. Seed brown, reniform, 4–5 × 3–3.5 mm, compressed. Fl. Apr–Jul, fr. Jun–Sep.

Coniferous forests, woodland margins, thickets, meadows; 1600–4000 m. Gansu, Shaanxi, Sichuan, Xizang, Yunnan [Bhutan, India, Kashmir, Nepal].

This is a very variable species, and several taxa have been distinguished on the basis of variation in the indumentum of the ovary, legume, and leaves. Turner (Brittonia 32: 281–285. 1980) revised the genus and concluded that variation in these characters was continuous and that only two taxa should be recognized, and we agree. Even *Piptanthus tomentosus* could be considered to be a very hairy higher-elevation ecotype, but it is here retained as distinct.

2. *Piptanthus tomentosus* Franchet, Rev. Hort. [Paris] 59: 474. 1887.

绒叶黄花木 rong ye huang hua mu

Shrubs, 1–3 m tall; bark dark brown. Stems terete, ridged, young branchlets tomentose, glabrescent. Stipules broadly ovate, 5–15 mm, tomentose; petiole 1–2 cm, furrowed adaxially; leaflets ovate-elliptic or lanceolate to obovate-lanceolate, 2.5–8 × 1–3 cm, rusty and gray mixed tomentose-sericeous abaxially, densely white silky at first adaxially, indumentum thinning with age but never completely absent, base cuneate, apex acute or obtuse. Racemes terminal, elongated, 5–15 cm; internodes 1.5–2 cm, usually 3-whorled; bracts broadly ovate, 1–1.5 cm, acute; pedicels ca. 1.5 cm. Calyx 1–1.2 cm, rusty tomentose. Corolla lemon-yellow, 1.8–2.2 cm; standard orbicular or broadly cordate, with ca. 6 mm claw; wings short; keel slightly shorter than standard. Ovary densely rusty tomentose, with ca. 5 mm stipe; ovules 4–8. Legume linear, 45–90 × 9–10 mm, compressed, rusty tomentose, apex acute. Seeds 2–6, brown, reniform, 5–6 × 4–5 mm. Fl. Apr–Jul, fr. Aug–Sep.

• Thickets by woodlands, meadows on slopes; 3000–3800 m. SW Sichuan, W Yunnan.

THERMOPSIDEAE