

47. ALEURITES J. R. Forster & G. Forster, Char. Gen. Pl. 111. 1776.

石栗属 shi li shu

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*Camirium* Gaertner.

Evergreen trees, monoecious; indumentum of stellate hairs. Leaves alternate; stipules minute, soon lost; petiole long, 2-glandular at apex; leaf blade simple, entire or 3–5-lobed, palmately 3–5-veined. Inflorescence terminal, branched, conical, lower bracts subtending clusters of male flowers, each major axis terminated by solitary female flower; buds subglobose. Male flowers: calyx splitting irregularly into 2 or 3(or 4) valvate lobes; petals 5, white or cream; disk glands 5, thick; stamens 15–32 in 3 or 4 series, outer ones free, inner ones united into column; anthers 2-locular, basi- to dorsibasifixed, introrse; pistillode absent. Female flowers similar to male but slightly larger, pedicellate; ovary 2(or 3)-locular; ovules 1 per locule; styles bifid. Fruit a drupe, subglobose; exocarp thinly fleshy; endocarp woody, 1- or 2-seeded. Seeds compressed globose, not carunculate.

Two species: one endemic to Hawaii, the other widely distributed in tropical and subtropical regions of Asia and Oceania; one species in China.

1. *Aleurites moluccana* (Linnaeus) Willdenow, Sp. Pl. 4: 590. 1805.

石栗 shi li

*Jatropha moluccana* Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 2: 1006. 1753; *Aleurites aminux* Persoon; *A. commutata* Geiseler; *A. cordifolia* (Gaertner) Steudel; *A. javanica* Gandoger; *A. lanceolata* Blanco; *A. lobata* Blanco; *A. triloba* J. R. Forster & G. Forster; *Camirium cordifolium* Gaertner; *C. moluccanum* (Linnaeus) Kuntze; *C. oleosum* Reinwardt ex Müller Argoviensis; *Juglans comirium* Loureiro.

Evergreen trees up to 20 m tall; bark dark gray, shallowly dehiscent to nearly smooth; young branches densely gray-brown stellate-puberulent, subglabrous at maturity. Stipules minute, subulate; petiole 6–12(–22) cm, densely stellate-puberulent; leaf blade papery, ovate to elliptic-lanceolate (sometimes rounded-reniform, entire or up to 5-lobed), (7–)14–20(–24) × (4–)7–17(–20) cm, both surfaces stellate-puberulent when young, adaxially glabrescent, abaxially sparsely stellate-puberulent or glabrescent, base broadly cuneate or obtuse, rarely shallowly cordate, with 2 sessile discoid adaxial glands, margin entire or shallowly repand-dentate, apex acute to acuminate; basal veins 3–5(–7). Panicles terminal, (10–)15–20 × 10–14 cm. Male flowers: pedicels 7–10 mm; buds ovoid, ca. 2 mm; calyx lobes ovate, 3–3.5 × 2–3 mm, apex acute, abaxially stellate-tomentose, adaxially glabrous; petals narrowly oblong-spatulate, 6–8 × ca. 2 mm, obtuse, glabrous, yellowish white; disk glands shallowly 3-lobed; stamens 15–20; inner filaments connate into hairy column, ca. 4 mm; free filaments ca. 1 mm, puberulent. Female flowers: pedicels 3–4.5 mm; buds ca. 4 mm, conical; calyx and petals as in male but petals ca. 1.5 mm wide; disk ca. 2 mm across, flat; ovary densely stellate-puberulent, 2(or 3)-locular; styles 2, short, bipartite. Drupes subglobose or slightly obliquely globose, 4–5 × 4–6 cm, shallowly 2-lobed with 4 low longitudinal ribs, 1- or 2-seeded. Seeds broadly ovoid, ca. 2.5 × 2.75 × 2.25 cm, lateral margin flattened; epispem hard, tuberculate-angular. Fl. Apr–Oct, fr. Oct–Dec.

Mixed evergreen forests, cultivated on hillsides, at roadsides, and

in country villages; 100–1000 m. Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Taiwan, Yunnan [Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; Pacific islands (New Zealand, Polynesia); widely cultivated in the tropics].

*Aleurites moluccana*, known as the candlenut tree, is cultivated for the oil obtained from its seeds. It is also widely grown as a roadside tree. The seeds contain hydrocyanic acid and a trace of a toxalbumin.

Fl. China 11: 265. 2008.