

7. **BHESA** Buchanan-Hamilton ex Arnott, Edinburgh New Philos. J. 16: 315. 1834.

膝柄木属 xi bing mu shu

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Evergreen trees with buttressed trunks, glabrous. Leaves alternate, entire, lateral veins parallel; petiole geniculate; stipules ovate or lanceolate, membranous, stipular scar conspicuous. Inflorescences axillary, cymose, paniculate, or racemose. Flowers bisexual, 5-merous. Disk fleshy, cupular to plate-form, 5-lobed, intrastaminal; anthers longitudinally dehiscent, introrse. Ovary 2-locular, glabrous or apically pubescent; ovules erect, 2 per locule. Capsule 2-valved or fusiform, leathery, loculicidally dehiscent. Seeds 1 or 2, oblong; aril basal or enveloping seed.

Five species: tropical Asia; one species in China.

1. **Bhesa robusta** (Roxburgh) Ding Hou, Blumea, Suppl. 4: 152. 1958.

膝柄木 xi bing mu

Celastrus robustus Roxburgh, Fl. Ind. 2: 395. 1824; *Kurrimia robusta* (Roxburgh) Kurz; *K. sinica* Hung T. Chang & S. Ye Liang.

Trees, 10(–40) m tall; twigs thick and strong, usually purple-brown, rough and coarse on surface, often with large leaves and bud scars; bark rather rough, brown. Leaves alternate, sometimes subopposite on young twigs; petiole cylindrical, 2–3 cm; leaf blade oblong-elliptic or narrowly ovate, 11–20 × 3.5–6 cm, subleathery, glossy, base often rounded or broadly attenuate, sometimes subcuneate or slightly cordate, margin entire, apex acuminate or acute; main vein and lateral veins prominent abaxially, lateral veins 14–18 pairs, becoming dense and netted distally.

Cymes 3–5-branched, many flowered; peduncle short or nearly absent; pedicel short. Flowers small, yellowish green; sepals linear-lanceolate, ca. 1.5 mm, narrowly acuminate at apex; petals narrowly obovate or oblong-lanceolate, ca. 2 mm, subrounded at apex. Filament ca. 2 mm. Ovary compressed globose, base surrounded by disk; styles 2, thick and large, basally with tufted hairs; stigma small. Capsule narrow and long ovoid, ca. 3 × 1–1.2 cm, steeply tapering to apex, with 2 vertical grooves. Seeds 1, elliptic-ovoid, ca. 1.5 cm, brown or brown-red, glossy; aril covering most of seed, white or brown.

Lowland forests; ca. 100 m. SE Guangxi (Hepu) [Bangladesh, ?Bhutan, Cambodia, E India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand, Vietnam].

According to FRPS (45(3): 147, 149. 1999), there exists only one tree of *Bhesa robusta* in Hepu, SE Guangxi.

Fl. China 11: 479. 2008.