

3. BRUCEA J. F. Miller, Icon. Anim. Pl. t. 25. 1779–1780, nom. cons.

鸦胆子属 ya dan zi shu

Shrubs or small trees, monoecious or dioecious, with bitter root cortex and bark. Branches pubescent or puberulent when young. Leaves odd-pinnate; stipules absent; leaflets 3–15; blades ovate or lanceolate, base slightly oblique, margin entire or serrate, apex acuminate. Flowers unisexual, rarely bisexual, in narrow axillary cymose panicles. Sepals 4, small, ovate, oblong-ovate, or deltoid, bases connate, imbricate in bud. Petals 4, small, free, imbricate in bud, oblong-ovate, oblong, or linear. Disk thick, 4-lobed. Stamens 4, only with rudiments in female flowers or fully degenerated; filaments short, inserted between lobes of disk; anthers cordate or ovate. Ovary 4-carpellate; carpels free, ovoid, with 1 ovule; styles free or basally connate. Fruit comprising 1 or more drupelike monocarps (each a druparium), hard, somewhat fleshy. Seeds exalbuminous.

About six species: mainly in Africa, Asia, and N Oceania; two species in China.

- 1a. Leaflet blades ovate or ovate-lanceolate, margin coarsely toothed; druparium 6–8 × 4–6 mm, exocarp reticulately wrinkled when dry 1. *B. javanica*
1b. Leaflet blades elliptic-lanceolate, ovate-lanceolate, or broadly lanceolate, margin entire; druparium 8–12 × 6–8 mm, exocarp shallowly reticulately wrinkled when dry 2. *B. mollis*

1. Brucea javanica (Linnaeus) Merrill, J. Arnold Arbor. 9: 3. 1928.

鸦胆子 ya dan zi

Rhus javanica Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 265. 1753; *Brucea sumatrana* Roxburgh; *Gonus amarissimus* Loureiro.

Shrubs or small trees. Young branches, petioles, and inflorescences yellow tomentose. Leaves 20–40 cm; leaflets 3–15; petiolule 4–8 mm; blades ovate or ovate-lanceolate, 5–10(–13) × 2.5–5(–6.5) cm, base broadly cuneate or nearly rounded, usually somewhat oblique, margin serrate, apex acuminate, both surfaces villous, especially along veins and abaxially. Panicles 15–25(–40) cm in males, ca. half as long in females. Flowers small, dark purple, 1.5–2 mm in diam. Male flowers: pedicel slender, ca. 3 mm; sepals densely puberulent, 0.5–1 × 0.3–0.5 mm; petals sparsely puberulent or nearly glabrous, 1–2 × 0.5–1 mm; filaments subulate, ca. 0.6 mm; anthers ca. 0.4 mm. Female flowers: pedicel ca. 2.5 mm; sepals and petals same as in males; stamens rudimentary. Druparia 1–4, free, oblong-ovoid, 6–8 × 4–6 mm, gray-black when ripe; exocarp reticulately wrinkled when dry; endocarp hard bony. Seeds yellow-white, ovoid, thinly membranous, with copious oil, terribly bitter. Fl. Jun–Jul, fr. Aug–Oct.

Open shrubby forests in foothills; below 100–1000 m. Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hainan, Taiwan, Yunnan [India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka; Australia].

2. Brucea mollis Wallich ex Kurz, J. Asiat. Soc. Bengal, Pt. 2, Nat. Hist. 42: 64. 1873.

柔毛鸦胆子 rou mao ya dan zi

Brucea acuminata H. L. Li; *B. mollis* var. *tonkinensis* Lecomte.

Shrubs or small trees, usually 1–2 m tall, sometimes up to 5 m. Branchlets yellow-green, puberulent; branches red-purple, densely white lenticellate. Leaves odd-pinnate, 20–45(–60) cm; rachis and petiole densely yellow pubescent; leaflets 5–15;

petiolules 3–7 mm; blades elliptic-lanceolate, ovate-lanceolate, or broadly lanceolate, 5–12(–15) × 2.5–5 cm, yellow tomentose when young, then puberulent or glabrescent, base broadly cuneate or slightly rounded, somewhat oblique, margin entire, apex long acuminate or acuminate; lateral veins 8–10 pairs, abaxially conspicuously prominent. Panicles long, 10–25 cm, slender; rachis densely yellow tomentose, then sparsely pubescent or glabrescent. Flowers 2–3 mm in diam. Petals spoon-shaped, shortly pubescent, longer than stamens. Disk flat and globose in males, shallowly disk-shaped in females. Ovary densely pubescent. Druparium ovoid, 8–12 × 6–8 mm, glabrous, red-brown when dry, shallowly reticulately wrinkled.

Mountainous sparse forests, thickets, roadside shrubs; 700–1200 (–1900) m. Guangdong, Guangxi, Yunnan [Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam].

Fl. China 11: 103–104. 2008.