
南酸枣属 nan suan zao shu

Deciduous trees, polygamous or dioecious. Leaves imparipinnately compound; leaflets opposite, petiolulate. Flowers 5-merous, unisexual; male flowers arranged in axillary or subterminal pleiothyrsoids; female flowers solitary. Stamens 10; anthers oblong, dorsifixed. Disk 10-lobed. Ovary 5-locular, with 1 apical pendulous ovule per locule; styles 5; stigma capititate. Drupe ellipsoid to obovate; mesocarp fleshy; endocarp bony with 5 germination holes at apex. Seed without endosperm; cotyledons thick.

One species: Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam.


南酸枣 nan suan zao

Deciduous trees, 8–20 m tall; branchlets dark purplish brown, minutely pubescent to glabrous, lenticellate. Petiole inflated at base, petiole and rachis minutely pubescent to glabrous; leaf blade 25–40 cm, imparipinnately compound, with 3–6 leaflets; leaflet petiolule slender, 2–5 mm, glabrous to minutely pubescent; leaflet blade ovate to ovate-lanceolate or oblone-ovate, 4–12 × 2–4.5 cm, papery, glabrous or abaxially with tufts of hair in vein axes, base ± oblique, broadly cuneate to rounded, entire or serrate at base, apex long acuminate, lateral veins 8–10 pairs, prominent on both surfaces, reticulate venation obscure. Male inflorescence 4–10 cm, minutely pubescent to glabrous; floral subtending bracts minute. Male flowers: calyx minutely pubescent to glabrous, lobes triangular, ca. 1 mm, apically obtuse, with purplish red glandular-ciliate hairs along margin; petals oblong, 2.5–3 mm, with brown venation, recurved at anthesis; stamens equal to petals in length, anthers oblong, ca. 1 mm. Female flowers solitary in axils of distal leaves, larger than male flowers; ovary ca. 1.5 mm, 5-locular, style ca. 0.5 mm. Drupe ellipsoid or obovate-ellipsoid, yellow at maturity, 2.5–3 cm, ca. 2 cm in diam.; endocarp 2–2.5 × 1.2–1.5 cm.

Lowland, hill, and mountain forests; 300–2000 m. Anhui, Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangxi, Taiwan, SE Xizang, Yunnan, Zhejiang [Cambodia, India, Japan, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam].


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毛脉南酸枣 mao mai nan suan zao


- Lowland and hill forests; 400–1000 m. Gansu, Guizhou, W Hubei, W Hunan, Sichuan.

1a. Branchlets and leaves glabrous ............... 1a. var. axillaris

1b. Branchlets and leaves minutely pubescent

1b. var. pubinervis

1a. Choerospondias axillaris var. axillaris

南酸枣(原变种) nan suan zao (yuan bian zhong)

Spondias axillaris Roxburgh, Fl. Ind., ed. 1832, 2: 45. 1832; Poupartia axillaris (Roxburgh) King & Prain; P. fordii Hemsley; S. lutea Engler.