
沙戟属 sha ji shu
Qiu Huaxing (丘华兴 Chiu Hua-hsing, Kiu Hua-shing, Kiu Hua-xing); Michael G. Gilbert

Tournesol Adansson.

Herbs or subshrubs; indumentum of stellate hairs and/or peltate scales, usually dense. Leaves alternate; stipules subulate; leaf blade margin entire or repand-dentate, base usually with 2 glands. Inflorescences axillary, racemelike thyrses, bisexual, male flowers distal, female flowers proximal. Male flowers: sepals 5, valvate; petals 5; disk absent, rarely present; stamens 5–15; filaments connate into a column; anthers 2-locular. Female flowers: sepals 5, valvate; petals 5, rarely absent; disk 5-glandular; ovary 3-locular; styles 3, 2-lobed, papillose. Fruit a capsule, stellate-pubescent or scaly, sometimes tuberculate, 3-locular. Seeds ovoid, smooth or warty.

About 12 species: C and S Asia, S Europe to E Africa, often in drier habitats; one species in China.


沙戟 sha ji

Herbs, annual, 10–30 cm tall, grayish stellate-tomentose. Stipules subulate, ca. 1.5 mm, deciduous; petiole 3–9 cm; leaf blade broadly ovate, 2–6 × 1.5–5 cm, papery, abaxially stellate-tomentose, adaxially pilose, base obtuse, glandless, margin repand, apex acute. Inflorescence 1–1.5 cm, with 10–12 male flowers and 5 or 6 female flowers; bracts subulate, 2–3 mm. Male flowers: pedicels ca. 2 mm; calyx ellipsoid in bud; sepals lanceolate, ca. 3 × 0.7 mm, pubescent; petals lanceolate, ca. 3.5 × 0.5 mm, yellow, pilose; glands 5; stamens 5; filaments ca. 2 mm, half connate; anthers 1.2–1.4 mm. Female flowers: pedicels 6–7 mm; sepals lanceolate, 2–3 × ca. 0.5 mm, pubescent; petals narrowly lanceolate, 1.5–2.5 mm; glands 5; ovary globose, tomentose; style ca. 1 mm, 2-lobed. Fruiting pedicels 1.3–4 cm; capsule subglobose, ca. 7 mm in diam., stellate-pubescent, tuberculate. Seeds ovoid, ca. 4 mm, smooth. Fl. Jun–Jul, fr. Jul–Aug.

Sand dunes, sandy riverbanks; 500–600 m. N Xinjiang [Kazakhstan].