45. **CROTON** Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 2: 1004. 1753.

**巴豆属** *ba dou shu*

Li Bingtao (李秉滔 Li Bing-tao); Hans-Joachim Esser

*Tridesmis* Loureiro.

Trees or shrubs, rarely subshrubs, monoecious or more rarely dioecious; latex clear or reddish, often scanty or apparently absent; indumentum of stellate hairs and/or peltate scales. Leaves alternate, rarely opposite or nearly verticillate; stipules present or absent; petiole with or without apical paired glands; leaf blade simple, margin entire or denticulate, often with glands; venation pinnate or palmate. Inflorescences terminal or axillary, racemelike thyrses, often with proximal solitary female flowers and distal male flowers, often in clusters. Male flowers: sepals mostly 5, imbricate to valvate, free; petals 5, smaller or nearly equal to sepals; disk glandular, usually 5, and opposite sepals; stamens 10–20; filaments free, flexed in bud; andthers muticous; pistilode absent. Female flowers: sepals 5, often narrower than in male, imbricate to reduplicate-valvate, persistent, sometimes acersecent; petals 5, smaller than in male, mostly reduced or obsolete; disk annular or dissected, receptacle often villous; ovary 3-locular; ovules 1 per locule; styles 3, longer and slender, free or nearly so, once to several times bifid. Fruit a capsule dehiscing into 3 2-valved cocci, more rarely ± indehiscent and fleshy, drupelike or berrylike. Seeds usually smooth, carunculate; testa crustaceous; endosperm copious, fleshy; cotyledon broad and flattened.

Nearly 1300 species: tropics and subtropics of the world, most numerous in the neotropics; 23 species (15 endemic) in China.

Many species are used medicinally. Several are extremely toxic. *Crotol moonii* Thwaites (瘤果巴豆 liu guo ba dou), native to Sri Lanka, is cultivated for medicine in S Guangdong.

1a. Young branches, inflorescences, and fruits with appressed membranous peltate scales.

2. Leaf blade leathery; capsule ovoid-ellipsoid or oblong, 2.5–3.5 cm ................................................................. 1. *C. joufra*

2b. Leaf blade thinly papery; capsule subglobose, 0.4–1 cm.

3. Leaf margins serrate, both surfaces olivaceous when dry, abaxially sparsely scaly ........................................... 2. *C. mangelong*

3b. Leaf margins entire, glaucous-gray to gray-brown when dry, abaxially densely scaly.

4a. Leaf blade 3-veined from base, adaxially sparsely hairy; styles bifid ................................................................. 3. *C. kongensis*

4b. Leaf blade pinnately veined, adaxially glabrous; styles 4–8-fid .................................................. 4. *C. cascarilloides*

1b. Young branches stellate-hairy, stellate-scaled, or subglabrous.

5a. Leaf blade palmately 3–5(–7)-veined.

6a. Leaf blade pinnately (3–)5(–7)-veined.

7a. Leaf blade papery, abaxially glabrous, glands at apex of petioles stalked ......................................................... 5. *C. euryphyllus*

7b. Leaf blade thinly leathery, abaxially persistently densely stellate-hairy, glands sessile or stalked.

8a. Leaf blade rotund to broadly ovate, glabrescent adaxially, basal glands sessile; fruits sparsely stellate-pubescent ................................................................. 6. *C. yunnanensis*

8b. Leaf blade ovate, rarely ovate-elliptic, sparsely stellate-pubescent adaxially, glands at apex of petioles stalked; fruits with densely waxy-yellow scurfy hairs ................................ 7. *C. yanhuixi*

6b. Leaf blade palmately 3–5-veined.

9a. Bract margins with linear-lanceolate teeth, apex of teeth with capitulate glands; styles 4-lobed ........ 8. *C. crassifolius*

9b. Bract margins entire; styles 2-lobed.

10a. Glands of leaf base or petiole apex cupular, stalked.

11a. Young branches, leaves, and inflorescences with purple-brown or purplish waxy stellate pubescence, older leaves glabrous ........................................ 9. *C. purpurascens*

11b. Young branches, leaves, and inflorescences with yellow-gray stellate hairs, older leaves persistently so.

12a. Leaf margins denticulate, leaf blade petiolar glands short and broad ...................... 10. *C. lachnocarpus*

12b. Leaf margins double-serrate, leaf blade basal glands longer and slender ............ 11. *C. cnidophyllus*

10b. Glands of leaf base or petiole apex discoid, sessile.

13a. Shrubs scandent; young branches and older leaves hispid; petiole to 1.5 cm, apex with glands; fruits globose ........................................................................................................ 12. *C. caudatus*

13b. Shrubs or treelets; young branches sparsely stellate-hairy, older leaves glabrous; petiole 2.5–10(–14) cm; fruits ellipsoid.

14a. Leaves papery, 2–7 cm wide, glands on base; male sepals glabrous at apex ............ 13. *C. tiglium*

14b. Leaves thinly leathery, 7–14 cm wide; glands on petiole apex; male sepals woolly ........................................................................................................ 14. *C. damayeshu*

5b. Leaf blade pinnately veined.

15a. Ovary and fruits glabrous; leaf blade papery, basal glands sessile and cupular ........................................ 15. *C. chunianus*
15b. Ovary and fruits with stellate hairs or stellate scale-hairs; leaf blade basal glands sessile or cupular.

16a. Leaf blade base or petiole apex with sessile, flat, or cupular glands.

17a. Inflorescences glabrous; female petals filamentous or absent.

18a. Leaves thinly leathery, abaxially with scurfy stellate hairs; petioles with cupular glands at apex ................................................................. 20. C. laniflorus

18b. Leaves papery, glabrous on both surfaces, base with flat glands ............................. 21. C. dinghuensis

17b. Inflorescences hairy; female petals present, oblong.

19a. Young branches and inflorescences with densely scurfy stellate scale-hairs; leaves glaucous-gray, base with semiurricular glands ................................................. 22. C. laevigatus

19b. Young branches and inflorescences densely stellate-pubescent; leaves yellow-brown when dry, base with cupular glands ................................................................. 23. C. laui

16b. Leaf blade base or petiole apex with stalked and cupular glands.

20a. Leaf blade not olivaceous-green when dry, abaxially glabrous or tomentose.

21a. Young branches and inflorescences with stellate scale-hairs; leaves papery, oblong-lanceolate, glabrous on both surfaces; petiole short, less than 1 cm ......................... 18. C. hancei

21b. Young branches and inflorescences stellate-tomentose; leaves thickly papery, long elliptic to oblong-elliptic, tomentose abaxially; petiole 1–6 cm ......................... 19. C. merrillianus

20b. Leaf blade olive-green when dry, abaxially glabrous.

22a. Young branches sparsely stellate-hairy; leaves smaller, 3–7 cm, margin entire, base with glands; petiole less than 1 cm ................................................................. 16. C. howii

22b. Young branches with appressed stellate hairs; leaves 7–14 cm, margin denticulate; petiole more than 1 cm, with glands at apex.

23a. Leaf blade base cuneate, equilateral ................................................................. 17. C. lauioides

23b. Leaf blade base rounded or unequallycordate ................................. C. moonii (see note above)


长果巴豆 chang guo ba dou

Croton caryocarpus Croizat.

Trees up to 18 m tall; indumentum with stellate scales; branches rather stout. Petioles 1.5–6 cm, apex with 2 cupular glands; leaf blade oblong, elliptic, or ovate-lanceolate, 10–25 × 2.5–8 cm, leathery, quite glabrous when old, base obtuse, margin entire or remotely repand-serrate, apex acuminate; lateral veins ca. 10. Inflorescence terminal, 10–25 cm, stellate-scaly. Male flowers: sepals 5, ovate-triangular, ca. 2 mm, stellate-scaly; petals 5, ovate-triangular, ca. 2 mm, puberulent; stamens 11 or 12; filaments villous. Female flowers: pedicels shorter; sepals 5, triangular, ca. 2.5 mm; petals reduced; disk annular; ovary ovoid; styles 3, 2-partite, slender. Capsules ovoid-ellipsoid or oblong, 2.5–3.5 cm, obscuredly lobed. Seeds ca. 1.2 cm. Fl. and fr. almost throughout year.

Evergreen or mixed forests; below 1000 m. SE Yunnan (Jinping) [Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Vietnam].


曼哥龙巴豆 man ge long ba dou

?Croton oblongifolius Roxburgh (1832), not Delile (1812); ?C. roxburghii N. P. Balakrishnan (1962), not Wallich (1840).

Trees up to 10 m tall; indumentum of appressed peltate scales; branches with dense scale-glands, these gradually deciduous. Petiole 1–3.5 cm; leaf blade elliptic, 10–14 × 4–6 cm, papery, both surfaces olivaceous, only abaxial surface with sparse scales, base broadly cuneate to rounded, base of midrib with 2 abaxial discoid glands, margins glandular-serrate, apex mucronate, mucro obtuse; lateral veins 10–13. Inflorescence terminal or axillary, 15–30 cm, many flowered. Male flowers to 5 mm in diam.; sepals 5, ovate, or ovate-oblong ca. 5 mm, with dense scale-glands; petals oblong, slightly larger than sepals, densely woolly; stamens 10–15, 2–3 × as long as sepals. Female flowers: sepals 5, long triangular, ca. 2 mm; petals 5, linear-oblong, ca. 2 mm; ovary ovoid, puberulent; styles 3, bifid almost to base and spreading. Capsules subglobose, ca. 1 × 0.9 cm. Fl. Jan–Mar; fr. Jul–Oct.

● Dense forests; 500–600 m. S Yunnan (Gengma) [see note below].

Croton mangelong is very closely related to, possibly conspecific with, the widespread species currently known as C. roxburghii N. P. Balakrishnan, which otherwise lacks a legitimate name. If this is true it would extend the distribution of C. mangelong to Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam.

There has been confusion with Croton persimilis Müller Argoviensis, a much smaller-leaved species restricted to S India and Sri Lanka, and both with species 22 of this account, C. laevigatus, and with C. delphi Gagnepain, from Indochina, Malaysia, and Thailand, which have stellate hairs rather than the membranous scales characteristic of C. mangelong.


越南巴豆 yue nan ba dou

Croton tonkinensis Gagnepain.

Shrubs 1–5 m tall; indumentum of densely glaucous gray to grayish brown and appressed deeply fimbriate peltate scales/stellate hairs; older branches glaucous-gray, scales gradually deciduous. Petioles 1–3(–5) cm, apex with 2 cupular glands; leaf blade ovate to elliptic-lanceolate, 5–14 × 2–7 cm, papery, abaxially glaucous-gray to gray-brown, adaxially
usually dark brown when dry, with smaller scale-glands; base rounded to broadly cuneate, margins entire, apex acuminate, rarely shortly acuminate; basal veins 3, lateral veins 3–5, arcuately ascending, anastomosing near margins. Inflorescences to 15 cm, sometimes branching at base; bracts linear-triangular, 2–3 mm, glabrescent, caducous; pedicels 1–3 mm; buds pubescent at apex. Male flowers: sepals lanceolate, ca. 2.5 mm; petals smaller than sepals, margins woolly; stamens ca. 15, glabrous. Female flowers: sepals lanceolate, ca. 3 mm; petals small, subulate; ovary densely stellate-pubescent; styles bifid, glabrescent. Capsules subglobose, 1.2–1.5 × ca. 1.2 cm, densely stellate-pubescent. Seeds ellipsoidal, dark gray-brown. Fl. Apr–May, fr. Jun–Sep.

- Open forests; 200–2400 m. Guangxi, S Guizhou, S Sichuan, Yunnan.

4. **Croton cascarilloides** Reuschel, Nomencl. Bot. 280. 1797. **銀叶巴豆** yin ye ba dou

_Croton punctatus_ Loureiro, Fl. Cochinch. 2: 581. 1790, not Jacquin (1787); _C. cascarilloides_ f. pilosus Y. T. Chang; _C. cochinchinensis_ Smith; _C. cumingii_ Müller Argoviensis; _C. pierrei_ Gagnepain.

Shrubs 1–2 m tall; indumentum of appressed, rounded, subhyaline, and membranous peltate scales; branches with stouter wrinkles. Leaves usually densely clustered at apex of branchlets; stipules subulate, caducous; petiole 1.5–3 cm; leaf blade lanceolate, oblanceolate, or elliptic to obovate-elliptic, 8–14 × (–23) × 2–5 (–10) cm, thinly papery, glaucous-gray or brown. Stipules linear, 7–8 mm, caducous; petiole 1.5–7 cm, cent, mostly very quickly deciduous; branches yellowish brown. Petiole 1.5–3 cm, 3–5(–7), lateral veins 3–5 pairs, arcuately ascending, anastomosing near margins. Inflorescences to 15 cm, sometimes branching at base; bracts linear-triangular, 2–3 mm, glabrescent, caducous; pedicels 1–3 mm; buds pubescent at apex. Male flowers: sepals lanceolate, ca. 2.5 mm; petals smaller than sepals, margins woolly; stamens ca. 15, glabrous. Female flowers: sepals lanceolate, ca. 3 mm; petals small, subulate; ovary densely stellate-pubescent; styles bifid, glabrescent. Capsules subglobose, 1.2–1.5 × ca. 1.2 cm, densely stellate-pubescent. Seeds ellipsoidal, dark gray-brown. Fl. Apr–May, fr. Jun–Sep.

- Open forests; 200–2400 m. Guangxi, S Guizhou, S Sichuan, Yunnan.


Shrubs 1–3 m tall; indumentum grayish yellow stellate-tomentose; branches subglabrous, gray-brown. Petiole 1–4 cm, densely stellate-hairy; leaf blade rotund, 5–9 × 4–7 cm, thinly leathery, abaxially densely stellate-tomentose, adaxially glabrescent, margins irregularly serrulate, base of midrib with 2 sessile cupular glands; basal veins 5. Inflorescence terminal, 10–15 cm. Male flowers: sepals elliptic, pubescent outside; petals oblong, apex woolly; stamens 12; filament bases pubescent. Female flowers: sepals ovate-lanceolate, ca. 5 × 2 mm, stellate-hairy outside, glabrous inside; petals oblong, smaller than sepals, woolly; ovary subglobose, densely stellate-hairy. Capsules ovoid-globose, 7–8 × 6–7 mm, stellate-puberulent. Seeds ellipsoidal, 5–6 × ca. 4 mm, smooth, with brown spot-stripes. Fl. Aug-Sep, fr. Sep-Oct.

- Montane scrub or sparse forests; 1000–2200 m. SW Sichuan, W Yunnan.


Shrubs or treelets to 5 m tall; indumentum of dense waxy-yellow scurfy hairs; older branches glabrous. Petiole 1–2.5 cm, apex with 2 stalked glands; leaf blade ovate, rarely ovo-elliptic, 8–12 × 4.5–6.5 cm, thinly leathery, both surfaces densely stellate-tomentose when young, abaxially persistent, adaxially later sparsely so, base rounded, rarely broadly cuneate, margin subentire, apex acuminate; basal veins (3–)5, lateral veins 2–4, arcuately ascending, anastomosing near margins. Flowers not seen. Inflorescence 3–6-fruited; persistent sepals triangular, both surfaces stellate-hairy. Fruiting pedicel 1–2 mm; capsule ellipsoidal, 1.2–1.4 × 1–1.2 cm. Seeds ellipsoidal, ca. 8 × 6 mm, smooth, with brown spot-stripes. Fl. Sep

- Densely forested slopes; ca. 1000 m. S Yunnan (Xishuangbanna).


12. Croton caudatus Geiseler, Croton. Monogr. 73. 1807.
papery, abaxially densely stellate hairy, adaxially sparsely rugedly stellate hairy, base broadly cuneate to rounded, often with pair of stalked glands, margins obscurely serrulate, sometimes with glands, apex acute, sometimes caudate-acuminate; basal veins 3(–5), lateral veins 3(or 4) pairs. Inflorescence terminal, 8–16 cm; bracts linear, ca. 2 mm, densely stellate-hairy. Male flowers: sepals ovate, ca. 2.5 mm, densely stellate-hairy; petals oblong, as long as sepals, margins white woolly; stamens ca. 20; filament bases densely white woolly. Female flowers: sepals ovate, ca. 3 mm, densely stellate-hairy outside; petals oblong, smaller than sepals; ovary densely hispid; styles bifid, linear. Fruits globose, ca. 1 cm in diam., densely yellow-brown stellate-hispid. Fl. May–Aug, fr. Jul–Oct.

Montane sparse forests; 500–600 m. SW Yunnan [Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Vietnam; N Australia].


巴豆 ba dou

Alchornea vaniotti H. Lévêillé; Croton birmanicus Müller Argoviensis; C. himalaicus D. G. Long; C. xiaopadou H. S. Kiu.

Treelets up to 7 m tall; indumentum of stellate hairs; young branches green, sparsely stellate-hairy, glabrous at maturity. Stipules subulate, 1.5–4 mm, caducous; petiole 2.5–6 cm, subglabrous; leaf blade ovate, ovate-elliptic, or ovate-lanceolate. 5–15 × 2–7 cm, papery, glabrous or glabrescent, yellowish to brownish when dry, base cuneate or broadly so, rounded, rarely slightly cordate, with discoid glands, margins serrulate or subentire, apex acute or acuminate, sometimes long acuminate or caudate-acuminate; basal veins 3(–5), lateral veins 3 or 4. Racemes terminal, 8–20 cm; bracts subulate, ca. 2 mm. Male flowers: bud subglobose, sparsely stellate-hairy or glabrescent. Female flowers: sepals oblong-lanceolate, ca. 2.5 mm, glabrescent; ovary densely stellate-hairy; styles bipartite. Capsules ellipsoid, oblong-ovoid, or subglobose, 1–2 × 1–2 cm, sparsely stellate-hairy or glabrescent. Seeds elliptic or oblong-ovate, 8–12 × 6–7 mm, gray-brown. Fl. Jan–Jul, fr. May–Sep.

Montane sparse forests, limestone shrublands; 300–700 m. Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Sichuan, Taiwan, Yunnan, Zhejiang [Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Vietnam].

The seed oil contains crotin, tiglic and crotonic acid, and crotonoside, and is very poisonous, being a drastic purgative and often causing pustular eruptions on the skin. The seeds are used to stupefy fish. The root and leaves are used as an external medicine for rheumatalgia and also as an insecticide.

The name “Croton tiglium var. xiaopadou” (Y. T. Chang & S. Z. Huang, Wuayi Sci. J. 2: 23. 1982) was not validly published because two gatherings were indicated as types (Vienna Code, Art. 37.2). The name was later validated, at species rank, by H. S. Kiu (J. Trop. Subtrop. Bot. 6: 103. 1998).


大麻叶巴豆 da ma ye ba dou

Treelets to 7(–10) m tall; young branches with sparse, very quickly deciduous stellate hairs. Petiole 4–10(–14) cm, apex with 2 discoid glands; leaf blade ovate-elliptic, (10–)14–20(–30) × 7–10(–14) cm, thinly leathery, both surfaces glabrous, base broadly cuneate or rotund, apex acute to acuminate or caudate-acuminate; basal veins 3, lateral veins 4 or 5. Inflorescence terminal, erect or slightly sloping, to 15 cm, sparsely stellate-pubescent, glabrescent; bracts narrowly ovate to linear, 1–3 mm, caducous; flowers usually 3(–5–9) per bract, proximal clusters bisexual with central female flower, distal clusters all male. Male flowers: pedicels slender, 2–4 mm, glabrous; sepals 5, 1.5–2 mm, woolly at apex; petals 5, as large as sepals, glabrous outside, woolly inside; stamens numerous. Female flowers: pedicels ca. 2 mm, stellate-tomentose; sepals and petals as in male; ovary densely yellow tomentose; styles 3, bifid, lobes linear, black when dry, glabrous. Capsules ellipsoid, ca. 2 × 1.8 cm, with sparsely appressed stellate hairs. Seeds ellipsoidal, 1.4–1.6 × ca. 1 cm, smooth. Fl. Jun–Aug, fr. Aug–Oct.

Montane sparse forests; 1000–1800 m. S Yunnan.


光果巴豆 guang guo ba dou

Shrubs ca. 2 m tall; indumentum of flattened stellate hairs; branches glabrous at maturity. Leaves clustered toward stem apex; petiole 5–10(–25) mm, with sparse stellate hairs; leaf blade elliptic-oblong to obovate-lanceolate, 8–14 × 2–4 cm, papery, glabrous except sometimes for sparsely stellate-hairy abaxial midrib when young, base attenuate to obtuse, base of midrib with sessile cupular glands, margin entire or with obscure serration, apex acuminate; venation pinnate. Inflorescence terminal, ca. 6 cm. Male flowers: sepals elliptic, 3–4 mm, stellate-hairy outside; petals obovate, ca. 3 mm, woolly; stamens ca. 14. Female flowers: sepals ovate-elliptic, ca. 3 mm, sparsely stellate-hairy or glabrescent; ovary subglobose, ca. 3 mm in diam., glabrous; styles bipartite. Capsules subglobose, ca. 8 mm in diam., glabrous. Seeds elliptic, ca. 6 mm. Fl. Jan–Jun, fr. May–Aug.

Dense forests; 300–600 m. Hainan (Baoting, Ledong).


宽昭巴豆 kuan zhao ba dou

Shrubs 1–4 m tall; indumentum sparse, of spreading stellate hairs; branches glabrous. Petiole 2–10 mm, glabrescent; leaf blade ovate-lanceolate, lanceolate, or elliptic to obovate-elliptic, 3–7 × 1–2.5 cm, papery, usually olivaceous-green when young and dry, glabrous, base broadly cuneate, base of midrib usually with stalked glands, sometimes glands obscure, margin entire, apex acute to acuminate. Inflorescence terminal, 1–3 cm; bracts ovate-lanceolate. Male flowers: sepals obovate-oblong, ca. 2 mm, only woolly at apex; petals lanceolate, 2–2.5 mm, margins woolly; stamens 8–10; filaments woolly at base.
Female flowers: sepals oblong-elliptic, ca. 2 mm, sparsely stellate-hairy or glabrescent; ovary stellate-hairy; styles bifid at apex. Capsules subglobose, ca. 8 mm in diam. Seeds ca. 6 mm, with brownish spot-stripes. Fl. and fr. almost throughout year.

- Dense forests or shrublands; 500–700 m. Hainan.


Female flowers: sepals oblong-elliptic, ca. 2 mm, sparsely stellate-hairy or glabrescent; ovary stellate-hairy; styles bifid at apex. Capsules subglobose, ca. 8 mm in diam. Seeds ca. 6 mm, with brownish spot-stripes. Fl. and fr. almost throughout year.

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Female flowers: sepals oblong-elliptic, ca. 2 mm, sparsely stellate-hairy or glabrescent; ovary stellate-hairy; styles bifid at apex. Capsules subglobose, ca. 8 mm in diam. Seeds ca. 6 mm, with brownish spot-stripes. Fl. and fr. almost throughout year.

- Dense forests or shrublands; 500–700 m. Hainan.

mm; sepals 5, lanceolate, ca. 2.5 mm, glabrous; petals absent; disk annular; ovary densely white stellate-hairy; styles 3, ca. 3 mm, bipartite, lobes linear. Capsules subglobose, ca. 1 cm in diam., brownish when dry, sparsely stellate-pubescent; sepals persistent, 3–6 mm. Seeds subellipsoid, ca. 6 mm, yellow-brown, with white spot-stripes. Fl. May–Jun, fr. Jul–Oct.

- Open or dense forests in limestone regions; below 100–250 m. Guangdong (Guangzhou, Panyu, Zhaoqing).


光叶巴豆 guang ye ba dou

Shrubs or trees, up to 15 m tall; indumentum with dense, appressed stellate hairs; branches glabrescent, older branches silvery gray. Leaves clustered at stem apex; stipules subulate, 2–3 mm, caducous; petiole 1–5 cm; leaf blade elliptic or oblong-elliptic to oblanceolate, 7–25 × 3–9 cm, papery, abaxially with sparse stellate hairs, glaucous-gray when dried, adaxially glabrescent, base attenuate, base of midrib with abaxial sessile semiorbicular glands, margins subentire, usually with glands, bilateral apex acuminate. Inflorescences terminally clustered, 10–30 cm, persistently hairy. Male flowers: sepals ca. 2 mm, densely and appressed stellate-hairy; petals oblong, ca. 2 mm, margins woolly; stamens 12–15. Female flowers: sepals as in male; petals small; ovary with densely appressed stellate hairs. Capsules obovoid or trigonous, ca. 10 × 8 mm, densely hairy. Fl. Oct–Dec, fr. Dec–Mar.

- Dense or open forests; below 100–600 m. Hainan.


海南巴豆 hai nan ba dou

Shrubs 1–5 m tall; young branches densely stellate-pubescent, glabrescent. Leaves clustered at stem apex; petiole 5–20 mm, stellate-pubescent to glabrous; leaf blade obovate or oblong-obovate to oblanceolate, rarely elliptic, 4–14 × 1.5–5 cm, papery, stellate-tomentose when young, glabrescent, yellow-brown when dry, base obtuse to slightly cordate, margin subentire or irregularly serrulate, apex obtuse to acute, base of midrib (or lateral veins) with abaxial sessile cupular glands. Inflorescence terminal, 2–13 cm, densely stellate-tomentose. Male flowers: sepals elliptic, ca. 2 mm; petals oblong, nearly as long as sepals, woolly; stamens 10; filaments woolly. Female flowers: sepals ca. 3 mm; ovary subglobose, densely stellate-tomentose; styles bifid to base. Capsules subglobose, ca. 9 mm in diam., sparsely stellate-pubescent. Seeds ellipsoidal, slightly flattened. Fl. Jan–May, fr. Apr–Aug.

- Open forests; 100–300 m. Hainan.