
九子母属 jiu zi mu shu

Podoon Baillon.

Shrubs or perennial herbs, dioecious. Leaves alternate to opposite, petiolate, simple, serrate. Inflorescence terminal or axillary, paniculate or racemose. Flowers dimorphic. Male flower subtended by small, linear bract, pedicellate; calyx campanulate, 4- or 5-dentate; petals 4 or 5, oblong to spatulate; stamens 8–10; pistillode present. Female flower subtended by large foliaceous, membranous bract to which pedicle is adnate; calyx, petals, and staminodes absent; disk annular; style 1, terminal, linear. Fruit lens-shaped, attached to midrib of accrescent, membranous, reticulately veined floral subtending bract.

Two species: E Himalayan region to SW China; two species (one endemic) in China.

1a. Perennial herbs; leaves alternate, ovate, base cordate, margin irregularly serrate; flowers 4- or 5-merous; female inflorescence racemose; floral subtending bracts large with rounded apex; fruit 3–4 mm in diam. ...................... 1. *D. delavayi*

1b. Shrubs; leaves opposite, oblong-lanceolate, base rounded, margin regularly serrulate; flowers 4-merous; female inflorescence paniculate; floral subtending bracts small with retuse to emarginate apex; fruit 2–2.5 mm in diam. .... 2. *D. vulgaris*


羊角天麻 yang jiao tian ma


Perennial herbs, 1–1.5 m tall; rhizome robust, elongate, terete, purplish brown; stem purple, striate, minutely pubescent distally. Leaves alternate; petiole decreasing in length from 1.5–6 cm basally to sessile toward shoot apices; leaf blade ovate to ovate-lanceolate, 6–11 × 3–9 cm, membranous, minutely pubescent adaxially, hirsute abaxially, base cordate, margin irregularly serrate, apex acuminate or acute, lateral veins 5–7 pairs, prominent abaxially. Male inflorescence thyrsoid, terminal or axillary, 8–15 cm, pubescent; floral subtending bract ca. 2 mm, pubescent; pedicel slender, 1–1.5 mm, pubescent; calyx campanulate, ca. 1.5 mm, 4(or 5)-dentate, glabrous to minutely pubescent; petals 4(or 5), greenish white, spatulate to clawed, ca. 1.8 mm; stamens 8–10, ones opposite calyx lobes longer, filaments filiform, 1–2 mm, anthers ovate, ca. 0.4 mm; disk annular, purplish red; pistillocoele conical, ca. 1 mm, pubescent. Female inflorescence racemose, 7–14 cm, terminal or axillary, pubescent; floral subtending bract membranous, elliptic, ca. 1.5 × 1 mm, pubescent, margins ciliate, adnate to pedicel; calyx, petals, and staminodes lacking; disk annular; ovary subglobose, ca. 0.5 mm in diam., minutely pubescent. Fruit achenelike, 3–4 mm in diam., minutely pubescent; accrescent floral subtending bract elliptic to suborbicular, 2–2.5 cm in diam., entire or serrate, reticulately veined, sparsely pubescent to glabrescent, with ciliate margin.

- Hill thickets and grasslands; 1100–2300 m. SW Sichuan, C and NW Yunnan.

The rhizome is used in traditional Chinese medicine.


九子母 jiu zi mu

Shrubs, 1–3 m tall; branchlets minutely pubescent. Leaves opposite; petiole 0.5–1.4 cm, minutely pubescent; leaf blade oblong-lanceolate, 7.5–11(–17.5) × 2.3–3.5(–5) cm, papery, sparsely puberulent or glabrescent on both surfaces, base rounded to cuneate, margin serrulate, apex acuminate. Inflorescence paniculate, terminal, ca. 18 cm, minutely pubescent. Male flowers subtended by linear bracteole; calyx campanulate, 4-lobed; petals 4, clawed; stamens 8, ones opposite to sepals longer; pistillode present. Female flowers subtended by linear bract; calyx, petals, and staminodes lacking; disk annular; ovary ovoid, ca. 1.5 mm in diam., style longer than ovary, recurved. Fruit pedicel adnate to accrescent floral subtending bract, bract membranous, grayish white, suborbicular, 1–1.3 cm in diam., margin serrulate and ciliate, apex retuse to emarginate, mucronate, reticulately veined; fruit slightly compressed, 2–2.5 mm in diam.

Hill forests; 1300–1400 m. SE Xizang (Mêdog), NW Yunnan (Gongshan) [Bhutan, NE India, Nepal].