

64. HOMALANTHUS A. Jussieu, Euphorb. Gen. 50. 1824 [“*Omаланthus*”], nom. cons.

澳杨属 ao yang shu

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

Trees or shrubs, monoecious (sometimes one sex missing); latex white; indumentum absent [or consisting of multicellular, uniseriate, brownish hairs]. Apical buds enclosed by conspicuous large stipules. Leaves alternate; stipules caducous; petioles long, 2-glandular at apex or eglandular; leaf blade sometimes peltate, margin entire [to serrate], pinnately veined. Inflorescence terminal, elongate racemelike thyrses, unbranched. Flowers unisexual, apetalous, without disk. Male flowers 1–3 (to many) per bract, pedicellate; calyx 1- or 2-lobed, free, bilaterally compressed; stamens 4–50; filaments nearly as long as anthers, free; anthers basifixed, extrorse, 2-thecate, longitudinally dehiscent; pistillode absent; receptacle flat to elevated. Female flowers usually 1 per bract, pedicellate; calyx 1–3-lobed, free, eglandular or glandular; ovary smooth, papillate to puberulent, with 2 (or 3) locules; ovules 1 per locule; style short to distinct; stigmas 2 (or 3), glandular below, apex often bifid. Capsule subglobose, regularly or irregularly dehiscent. Seeds 2 (or 3) per fruit, reddish to brownish, flattened, partly to completely covered by a whitish arillode; testa crustaceous; cotyledon broad and flattened.

About 20–25 species: S Thailand through Malaysia to Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific islands, and SE China to the Philippines, also widely cultivated; one species in China.

1. *Homalanthus fastuosus* (Linden) Fernández-Villar in Blanco, Fl. Filip., ed. 3, 4(13A): 196. 1880.

圆叶澳杨 yuan ye ao yang

Mappa fastuosa Linden, Belg. Hort. 15: 100. 1865; *Carumbium fastuosum* (Linden) Müller Argoviensis; *Homalanthus alpinus* Elmer; *H. bicolor* Merrill; *H. milvus* Airy Shaw.

Trees or treelets, 8–18 m tall, often much branched apically, glabrous. Leaves often fascicled at apex of branch; stipules 1.5–8.5 cm; petioles 5–9 cm, reddish, with a pair of abaxial-lateral glands; leaf blade rhomboid-ovate or triangular-ovate, 4–23 × 3.5–24 cm, papery to leathery, adaxially green, abaxially glaucescent, with 0–17 laminar glands below, base obtuse or attenuate to shallowly retuse, peltate or not, apex shortly acuminate; midvein elevated abaxially, lateral veins 7–15 pairs, reticulate veins prominent. Inflorescences 12–20 cm, bisexual, female in lower part, male in upper part. Male flowers usually 3 per bract; bracts each with one pair of basal glands; glands orbicular, ca. 1.2 mm in diam.; pedicels 1.5–4 mm; calyx 2-lobed, free, lobes reniform, apex rounded; stamens 9; filaments shorter. Female flowers: pedicels 4–5 mm (elongating to 13 mm in fruits); glands orbicular; calyx 2-lobed, lobes ovate, ca. 1 mm in diam.; ovary elliptic, with 2 locules; styles 2, free; stigmas ca. 2 mm, recurved, undivided to rarely divided, with small apical glands. Capsules obovoid to subglobose, 4–6 × 6–8 mm, papillate, keeled. Seeds 3–5 × 3–4 mm, upper half or more covered by arillode.

Lowland forests. ?Hainan, Taiwan (Lan Yu) [Philippines].

The name *Homalanthus alpinus* was formerly used for plants with nonpeltate leaves that in all other characters are identical with *H. fastuosus*. The identity of plants so named from Hainan is uncertain; it is possible that they do not belong to this genus.

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