
薄核藤属  bao he teng shu

Shrubs climbing, lenticellate. Leaves alternate, petiolate; leaf blade cordate-ovate, veins 7–9, basally palmate, margin sparsely serrulate. Plants dioecious. Flowers small, in simple or complex extra-axillary racemes. Staminate flowers: calyx 5-lobed, persistent, not accrescent; petals 5, slightly coherent at base, apex inflexed, valvate; stamens alternate with petals; filaments broad, short, with 2 compressed, lateral, bottle-shaped appendages at base; anthers erect, 2-lobed; connectives small, protruding; ovary undeveloped. Pistillate flowers: calyx and petals as in staminate flowers; reduced stamens 4–6; anthers absent or subsagittate, undeveloped, alternate with 5 glands; glands unequal, rounded-toothed; ovary ovoid, sessile; style short, cylindric, apex 2- or 3-lobed; stigma capitulate. Drupe obliquely ovoid, compressed; mesocarp thin; endocarp crustaceous. Cotyledons broadly orbicular or unequally obcordate-ovate, thin.

One species: tropical Asia.


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Natsiatum tonkinense Gagnepain.

Young branches yellow-brown strigose; old branches conspicuously lenticellate. Petiole 3.5–7.5 cm, slender, yellow-brown crispate pubescent; leaf blade cordate-ovate, 8–12 × 5–8 cm, membranous, sparsely hirsute, lateral veins 3–5 pairs, like midvein prominent abaxially, concave adaxially, tertiary veins subparallel, reticulate veins very conspicuous abaxially, base cordate, margin minutely mucronate by excurrent veins, apex acute. Flowers yellow-green; pedicel ca. as long as flowers, slender, hirsute. Sepals lanceolate, ca. 1 mm, valvate, outside hairy. Petals narrowly lanceolate, ca. 3 mm, outside hairy. Drupe yellow-green, becoming black with age, ca. 1.5 × 1 cm. Fl. unknown, fr. Aug.

Evergreen broad-leaved forests on limestone mountains; ca. 2400 m. W Yunnan (Lushui) [Bangladesh, Bhutan, N India, NE Laos, S Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, NE Thailand, N Vietnam].