

17. XYLOCARPUS J. Koenig, Naturforscher (Halle) 20: 2. 1784.

木果楝属 mu guo lian shu

Peng Hua (彭华); David J. Mabberley

Trees or shrubs, semievergreen. Leaves in spirals, even-pinnate; leaflets [2-]4[-8] pairs; leaflet blades with margin entire. Thyrses axillary, consisting of sparse cymes. Flowers appearing bisexual. Calyx short, 4-lobed; lobes oblong, contorted in bud. Staminal tube kettlelike, apically narrowed, apex 8-lobed; anthers 8, sessile, inserted between and alternating with lobes, oblong, included. Disk thick, hemispheric, fleshy, adnate with ovary base. Ovary small, globose, 4-locular, with 3 or 4 superposed ovules per locule; style cylindrical; stigma disciform. Capsule globose; pericarp fleshy, dehiscent into 4 segments. Seeds 5-20, large and thick, irregularly tetrahedral to pyramidal; sarcotesta spongy; endosperm absent; cotyledons thick.

Three species: tropical E Africa, tropical Asia, W Pacific islands; one species in China.

1. *Xylocarpus granatum* J. Koenig, Naturforscher (Halle) 20: 2. 1784.

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*Carapa obovata* Blume.

Trees or shrubs, to 5 m tall. Branches gray, smooth, glabrous. Leaves ca. 15 cm; petiole and rachis cylindrical, glabrous; petiole 3-5 cm; leaflets usually 4, opposite; petiolules ca. 4 mm, base inflated; leaflet blades elliptic to obovate-oblong, 4-9 × 2.5-5 cm, subleathery, both surfaces glabrous and usually pale, secondary veins 8-10 on each side of midvein, ascending, anastomosing near margin, reticulate veins sparse and ± obvious, base cuneate to broadly cuneate, margin entire, apex rounded. Cymes consisting of 1-3 flowers, many

cymes forming thyrses, glabrous. Pedicel 1 cm or more. Calyx lobes rounded. Petals white, obovate-oblong, ca. 6 mm, leathery. Staminal tube lobes suborbicular and weakly 2-cleft; anthers ellipsoid, glabrous, base cordate. Disk ± as high as ovary, base contracting, apex fleshy, striate. Style subquadrigonal, glabrous; stigma ± as long as staminal tube. Capsule 10-12 cm in diam., stipitate, with 8-12 seeds. Fl. and fr. Apr-Nov.

Mangrove forests. Hainan [India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam; E Africa, W Pacific islands].

The bark contains ca. 30% tannin. The red, hard wood is used as timber.

Fl. China 11: 131. 2008.