

16. DECASCHISTIA Wight & Arnott, Prodr. Fl. Ind. Orient. 1: 52. 1834.

十裂葵属 shi lie kui shu

Herbs or shrubs. Leaves stipulate, petiolate; leaf blade entire or lobed. Flowers axillary or aggregated on twig tips, shortly pedicellate. Epicalyx lobes 10. Calyx 5-lobed, connate at base, coherent with staminal column at base. Staminal column with many anthers, apically 5-lobed. Ovary 6–10-loculed; ovules 1 per locule; style branches 6–10, connate at base; stigma capitate. Capsule loculicidally and septicidally dehiscent, breaking up into separate valves. Seeds reniform.

About ten species: tropical Asia; one species in China.

Decaschistia has been placed in a separate tribe from the rest of the Hibisceae on the basis of the distinctive capsule with 6–10 1-seeded locules that is both loculicidal and septicidal and breaks up into separate valves when mature. Preliminary molecular data (Pfeil & Crisp, Austral. Syst. Bot. 18(1): 49–60. 2005) indicate that *Decaschistia* is nested within *Hibiscus* (q.v.).

1. *Decaschistia mouretii* Gagnepain, Notul. Syst. (Paris) 1: 79. 1909.

中越十裂葵 zhong yue shi lie kui

Shrubs or subshrubs, perennial, to ca. 0.3 m tall, taproot conic, to 1.5 cm thick; entire plant yellow-brown stellate tomentose or densely gray-yellow stellate puberulent. Stipule filiform or subulate, 2–6 mm, densely stellate tomentose, usually caducous; petiole 0.5–1 cm; leaf blades on proximal part of stem ovate or ovate-elliptic, base broadly cuneate to rounded, margin shallowly sinuate, sparsely serrate, apex obtuse, those on distal part of stem oblong or elliptic. Flowers axillary on upper twigs, solitary or aggregated. Pedicel 3–5 mm. Epicalyx lobes filiform, 10–11, connate at base, 5–8 mm. Calyx cup-shaped or campanulate, ca. 1 cm, lobes long triangular, ca. 6 mm. Corolla campanulate, ca. 3 cm in diam.; petals yellow, reddish when dry, 2–3 cm, abaxially stellate pilose. Filament tube 0.7–2 cm; anthers on distal 1/2, dense, with short filaments. Ovary 6–10-loculed; style branches 6–10, exceeding staminal column, 4–9 mm; stigma capitate. Capsule flattened-globose, ca. 1 cm in diam., tomentose. Fl. Apr–May.

Savannas, sandy soils. Guangdong, Hainan [N Vietnam].

- 1a. Petals ca. 2 cm; style branches 9–10, ca. 4 mm 1a. var. *mouretii*
1b. Petals 2.5–3 cm; style branches 6–9, 8–9 mm 1b. var. *nervifolia*

1a. *Decaschistia mouretii* var. *mouretii*

中越十裂葵(原变种) zhong yue shi lie kui (yuan bian zhong)

Shrubs; entire plant yellow-brown stellate tomentose. Stipule subulate, ca. 2 mm; blades on distal part of stem ovate. Flowers solitary. Pedicel 3–5 mm. Epicalyx lobes 7–8 mm. Calyx cup-shaped. Petals yellow, reddish when dry, ca. 2 cm. Filament tube 0.7–0.8 cm. Ovary 9–10-loculed; style branches 9–10, ca. 4 mm.

Savannas. Guangdong (Haikang) [N Vietnam].

This taxon is represented by a very small population.

1b. *Decaschistia mouretii* var. *nervifolia* (Masamune) H. S. Kiu, Guihaia 14: 304. 1994.

十裂葵 shi lie kui

Decaschistia nervifolia Masamune, Trans. Nat. Hist. Soc. Taiwan 33: 252. 1943.

Subshrubs to 0.2 m tall; most parts densely gray-yellow stellate puberulent. Stipule filiform, ca. 6 mm; leaf blade ovate-elliptic, 1.5–3.5 × 1–2 cm, adaxially stellate pilose. Flowers fascicled. Pedicel ca. 3 mm. Epicalyx lobes ca. 5 mm. Calyx campanulate, densely stellate puberulent and villous, lobes lanceo-

Flora of China 12: 294–295. 2007.

late, 1/2 as long as calyx. Petals red, 2.5–3 cm. Filament tube ca. 2 cm. Ovary 6–9-loculed; style branches 6–9, 8–9 mm, connate at base. Fruit unknown. Fl. Apr–May.

- Sandy soils. Hainan.

Decaschistia mouretii var. *nervifolia* has been described as endangered but lacks any recent assessment of its conservation status.

Flora of China 12: 294–295. 2007.