

**5. RHAMNONEURON** Gilg in Engler & Prantl, Nat. Pflanzenfam. 3(6a): 245. 1894.

鼠皮树属 shu pi shu shu

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Shrubs. Leaves alternate, leaf blade ± leathery, densely and prominently pinnately veined. Inflorescence terminal or axillary, paniculate, consisting of many few flowered involucrate heads; bracts white. Flowers bisexual, sessile, 4-merous. Calyx tube white or red, cylindric, usually saccate, exterior sericeous. Petaloid appendages absent. Stamens twice as many as calyx lobes, in two series; filaments very short or absent. Disk cup-shaped, membranous, margin ± undulate. Ovary completely pilose, 1-loculed; style short; stigma capitate. Fruit pilose abaxially, enclosed by persistent calyx. Seed fusiform to linear; testa crustaceous, cotyledons succulent.

Two species: China, Vietnam; one species in China.

Halda (Genus *Daphne*, 100. 2001) included *Rhamnoneuron* within his very broad concept of *Daphne*. This view is not accepted here.

**1. Rhamnoneuron balansae** (Drake) Gilg in Engler & Prantl, Nat. Pflanzenfam. 3(6a): 245. 1894.

鼠皮树 shu pi shu

*Wikstroemia balansae* Drake, J. Bot. (Morot): 227. 1889;  
*Daphne balansae* (Drake) Halda; *Rhamnoneuron rubriflorum*  
C. Y. Wu ex S. C. Huang.

Shrubs or small trees, to 2–4(–10) m tall. Branchlets erect, brown, slender, appressed hispid, glabrescent. Petiole 1–3 mm, sparsely pubescent; leaf blade ovate or oblong to lanceolate, (8–)10–19 × 2.5–5.5 cm, abaxially appressed pubescent, adaxially glabrous, base cuneate or broadly cuneate, rarely rounded, apex acuminate; lateral veins 19–24 pairs, slightly curved ascending, conspicuous. Inflorescences terminal and axillary, capitate, in panicles, 4-flowered; peduncle 1.5–2 cm, sericeous; involucre bracts 2. Calyx red, ca. 12 mm, exterior sericeous; lobes 4, erect, ovate, ca. 2.5 mm. Stamens 8, inserted in calyx tube; filaments ca. 1/2 as long as anthers; anthers oblong, ca. 1.5 mm. Disk cup-shaped, margin undulate. Ovary white hirsute; style short; stigma subglobose. Drupe fusiform, ca. 8 mm, abaxially white hirsute, covered by persistent calyx. Fl. Mar.

Forests; 900–1200 m. SE Yunnan (Pingbian) [Vietnam].

