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

鼠皮树属  shu pi shu shu  
Wang Yinzhen (王印政); Michael G. Gilbert

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.

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, capitulate, in panicles, 4-flowered; peduncle 1.5–2 cm, sericeous; involucral 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 hisolute; style short; stigma subglobose. Drupe fusiform, ca. 8 mm, abaxially white hisolute, covered by persistent calyx. Fl. Mar.

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