

2. *TREVESIA* Visiani, Giorn. Tosc. Sci. Med. 1: 72. 1840.

刺通草属 ci tong cao shu

Shrubs or trees, evergreen, hermaphroditic, with few to many spines, glabrous or stellate pubescent. Leaves simple, palmately lobed or appearing almost palmately compound, with a fanlike base and lobes constricted to midvein, margin serrate; stipules ligulate, partly or fully united. Inflorescence a terminal or pseudo-lateral raceme or panicle of umbels; bracts small to large, persistent or caducous. Pedicels not articulate below ovary. Calyx margin entire or minutely lobed. Petals 7–12, valvate, often cohering and calyptrate, falling as a single unit or abscissing separately. Stamens as many as petals. Ovary 6–16-carpellate; styles united into a short column. Fruit a drupe, globose to ovoid. Seeds depressed; endosperm uniform.

About 10 species: SE Asia, Indochina, India, Nepal; one species in SW China.

1. *Trevesia palmata* (Roxburgh ex Lindley) Visiani, Mem. Reale Accad. Sci. Torino, ser. 2, 4: 262. 1842.

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Gastonia palmata Roxburgh ex Lindley, Bot. Reg. 11: t. 894. 1825; *Brassaiopsis papayoides* Handel-Mazzetti; *Fatsia cavaleriei* H. Léveillé; *Gilibertia palmata* (Roxburgh ex Lindley) Candolle; *Plerandra jatrophifolia* Hance; *Trevesia cavaleriei* (H. Léveillé) Grushvitzky & Skvortsova; *T. palmata* (Roxburgh ex Lindley) Visiani var. *costata* H. L. Li.

Trees, evergreen, to 8 m tall. Trunk to ca. 15 cm d.b.h.; branches prickly, farinose stellate pubescent. Leaves simple; petiole often prickly, 30–70(–90) cm; stipules united into a 2-lobed sheath; blade large, 60–90 cm wide, leathery, both surfaces glabrous or with scattered stellate hairs, lateral veins distinct on both surfaces, deeply 5–9-lobed; lobes narrowly ovate-lanceolate, margin serrate, apex acuminate. Inflorescence a panicle of umbels, ca. 45 cm, densely farinose stellate pubescent when young, glabrescent; peduncles 4–17 cm; umbels 4–5 cm in diam., 25–45-flowered; pedicels 1.5–2 cm. Calyx rim 1–2 mm, farinose stellate pubescent. Stamens 7–12. Ovary 7–12-carpellate. Fruit subglobose to compressed-globose, 1–1.8 cm in diam., smooth or ribbed; styles united, conic, 2–4 mm, stout, persistent. Fl. Oct, fr. May–Jul.

Mixed forests on mountain slopes; 600–2000 m. S Guangxi, Guizhou, S Yunnan [Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Laos, Nepal, Thailand, Vietnam].

This species is used medicinally and as an ornamental.

Two varieties (*Trevesia palmata* var. *palmata* and var. *costata*, the latter from S Yunnan) have sometimes been distinguished on the basis of minor differences in fruit shape and the presence or absence of ribs on dry fruit, but they do not appear to be worthy of recognition.

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