

## 1. TUPIDANTHUS J. D. Hooker & Thomson, Bot. Mag. 82: t. 4908. 1856.

多蕊木属 duo rui mu shu

Small trees or woody vines, evergreen, hermaphroditic, unarmed. Leaves palmately compound; leaflets 7–10, entire; stipules united with petiole. Inflorescence a pseudo-lateral compound umbel or small panicle of umbels. Pedicels stout, not articulate below ovary. Calyx a low rim. Petals indefinite in number, thick, leathery, becoming woody when dry, valvate, united into a calyptra, early deciduous. Stamens 25 or more, in 2 to several series. Ovary 20–70-carpellate; styles absent; stigmas sessile, as many as carpels. Fruit a drupe, leathery. Seeds many, endosperm uniform.

One species: NE India to S China (Yunnan) and N Indochina.

Recent phylogenetic studies have shown that *Tupidanthus* is part of a well-supported Asian *Schefflera* clade (Plunkett et al., Pl. Syst. Evol. 245: 1–39. 2004; Plunkett et al., Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard. 92: 202–224. 2005) and may therefore not warrant recognition as a distinct genus.

**1. *Tupidanthus calyptratus*** J. D. Hooker & Thomson, Bot. Mag. 82: t. 4908. 1856.

多蕊木 duo rui mu

*Schefflera pueckleri* (K. Koch) Frodin; *Tupidanthus pueckleri* K. Koch.

Trees, small, at first erect, later becoming lofty climbers, to 30 m tall, glabrous. Stem to ca. 15 cm in diam. at base. Leaves 7–10-foliolate; petiole 15–35(–60) cm; petiolules 3–5 cm; leaflets elliptic to obovate or oblong-lanceolate, 12–23 × 4–8.5 cm, lateral veins 20–30 pairs, base acute to attenuate, margin entire, apex shortly acuminate. Inflorescence pseudo-lateral, a compound umbel or panicle of umbels; secondary axes 3–5, each 4–8 cm, very stout, with large ovate sheathing leathery

bracts at base; umbels 3–7 flowered; pedicels 1.5–2 cm, stout. Flowers 1.5–3 cm in diam. Calyx tube leathery, smooth. Stamens 30–70, densely packed. Fruit depressed-globose, 2–3.5 cm in diam., stigmatic crest usually forming an irregular “Y” or “H”; exocarp fleshy.

Climbing on forest trees; 900–1700 m. Xizang, S Yunnan [Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam].

This species is used medicinally and as an ornamental.

*Tupidanthus calyptratus* has been included in *Schefflera* (where the combination *S. pueckleri* must be used) by some authors (e.g., Frodin and Govaerts, World Checklist Bibliogr. Araliaceae. 2004 [“2003”]; Lowry, Bull. Mus. Natl. Hist. Nat., B, Adansonia 11: 117–155. 1989).

