

## 42. CRYPTOTAENIA de Candolle, Coll. Mém. 5: 42. 1829, nom. cons.

鸭儿芹属 ya er qin shu

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*Deringa* Adanson, nom. rej.

Herbs, perennial, essentially glabrous (minutely scabrous along leaf veins). Rootstock small, tuberous, branched. Stem terete, branched, purplish, base without remnant sheaths. Leaves petiolate, sheaths oblong, membranous, inflated; blade ternate; leaflets rhombic-ovate or subcordate, base broad-cuneate or cuneate, margin acute-biserrate. Umbels compound, grouped into a panicle, terminal; inflorescence branches and rays flexuose in flower, stiffening in fruit; bracts and bracteoles present or absent; rays several, very unequal; umbellules few-flowered; pedicels very unequal. Calyx teeth minute triangular. Petals white, obovate, apex incurved. Stylopodium long-conic, divided and tapering into the short, erect styles. Fruit elongate, oblong, slightly dorsally compressed, apex abruptly tapered, base rounded, glabrous; ribs 5, prominent, pale; vittae 1–3 in each furrow, 4 on commissure. Seed face plane. Carpophore 2-cleft to base.

Five or six species: Africa, E Asia, Europe, North America; one species in China.

### 1. *Cryptotaenia japonica* Hasskarl, Retzia 1: 113. 1855.

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*Cryptotaenia canadensis* (Linnaeus) de Candolle subsp. *japonica* (Hasskarl) Handel-Mazzetti; *C. canadensis* var. *japonica* (Hasskarl) Makino.

Plants 20–100 cm. Basal and lower petioles 5–20 cm, with oblong sheaths; blade triangular to broad-ovate, 2–14 × 3–7 cm; middle leaflets rhombic-obovate or cordate, 2–9 × 1.5–10 cm; lateral leaflets obliquely long-ovate to obovate, 1.5–8 × 1–6 cm. Bracts absent or 1, linear, 4–10 × 0.5–1.5 mm; rays 2–3, 0.5–3.5 cm, very unequal; bracteoles 1–3, subulate, 4–10 mm;

pedicels 2–4, 1–14 mm, very unequal. Calyx teeth 0.1–0.3 mm, unequal. Petals 1–1.2 × ca. 0.6–1 mm. Fruit 4–6 × 1–1.5 mm. Fl. and fr. Feb–Oct.  $n = 11^*$ .

Damp places in forests, ditches; 200–2400 m. Anhui, Fujian, Gansu, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hebei, Hubei, Hunan, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Sichuan, Taiwan, Yunnan [Japan, Korea].

This species is used in traditional Chinese medicine as a tonic for strengthening the body. It is a distinctive, widespread taxon exhibiting almost continuous variation in leaf and inflorescence form across the range. It is here treated as a species (with three forms: f. *japonica*, f. *dissecta* (Y. Yabe) Hara, and f. *pinnatisecta* S. L. Liou) closely resembling, but distinct from, the North American *Cryptotaenia canadensis* (Linnaeus) de Candolle.

