

1. DIAPENSIA Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 141. 1753.

岩梅属 yan mei shu

Shrublets, prostrate, compact, often forming a mat or cushion. Stems slender, many-branched. Leaves subsessile, often crowded, margin entire. Flowers solitary, subsessile or on a short scape. Calyx with 2 or 3 bracts at base. Corolla campanulate, 5-lobed to middle or more basally, caducous. Stamines minute or absent. Ovary globose, 3-locular. Style erect, filiform; stigma entire, capitate, or slightly 3-lobed. Capsule 3-locular, ellipsoid or globular, surrounded by persistent calyx; scape elongating in fruit.

Four species: Asia, N Europe, North America; three species (one endemic) in China.

The circumpolar *Diapensia lapponica* Linnaeus could possibly be found in the Changbai Shan of S Jilin.

- 1a. Shrublets 10–15 cm tall; leaf blade 6–10 mm; flowers on a 1–2 cm scape 3. *D. wardii*
1b. Shrublets usually less than 10 cm tall; leaf blade 2–4(–7) mm; flowers subsessile with scape only elongating in fruit.
2a. Leaf blade adaxially with stomates, generally smooth and shiny 1. *D. himalaica*
2b. Leaf blade adaxially without stomates, generally dull and very finely papillose 2. *D. purpurea*

1. *Diapensia himalaica* J. D. Hooker & Thomson, Hooker's J. Bot. Kew Gard. Misc. 9: 373. 1857.

喜马拉雅岩梅 xi ma la ya yan mei

Diapensia acutifolia Handel-Mazzetti; *D. himalaica* var. *acutifolia* (Handel-Mazzetti) W. E. Evans; *D. himalaica* var. *retusa* W. E. Evans.

Shrublets, caespitose, ca. 5 cm tall. Leaves crowded on stem; petiole 1.5–2.5 mm, winged; leaf blade obovate, obovate-spatulate, lanceolate, or obovate-oblong, 2–5 × 1–2.5 mm, leathery, adaxially shiny and with stomates, base sheathing stem, margin entire and sometimes slightly revolute, apex obtuse to acute or sometimes mucronate-apiculate, acuminate, or retuse; midvein adaxially impressed; lateral veins inconspicuous. Flowers subsessile. Sepals 5, free, purplish red, ovate at flowering. Corolla pinkish red to rose-purple, occasionally white or yellow; tube campanulate, 4–8 mm, ca. 2 times longer than sepals; lobes suborbicular, broad-obovate, or oblong, ca. 6 × 4–5 mm. Stamens subsessile; stamines minute and inconspicuous. Style 4–10 mm; stigma capitate to slightly 3-lobed. Capsule pinkish red, broadly ellipsoid, ca. 8 × 3–4 mm; elongated scape 5–7 cm; fruiting calyx becoming ovate-oblong, leaflike, 2.5–5 × 2–3 mm. Fl. May–Jun, fr. Aug.

Rocky hillsides, cliff ledges, damp rock faces; 3200–5000 m. SE Xizang, NW Yunnan [Bhutan, N Myanmar, Sikkim].

2. *Diapensia purpurea* Diels, Repert. Spec. Nov. Regni Veg. 10: 419. 1912.

红花岩梅 hong hua yan mei

Diapensia bulleyana Forrest ex Diels; *D. purpurea* f. *rosea* W. E. Evans; *D. purpurea* f. *albida* W. E. Evans.

Shrublets 3–10 cm tall. Leaves crowded on stem; petioles 2–6 mm, semiamplexicaul, persistent; leaf blade spatulate-elliptic to oblong, 3–4(–7) × 1.5–2.5(–3.5) mm, adaxially very finely papillose and without stomates, base gradually narrowed and attenuate into petiole, margin entire and apically slightly revolute, apex rounded to ± obtuse. Flowers subsessile. Sepals spatulate to oblong, 5–6 × 1–3.5 mm, usually with 5 inconspicuous veins. Corolla pinkish red, occasionally white or yellow; tube tubular, 4.5–6 × 10–13 mm; lobes orbiculate, ca. 6–6.5 ×

4–4.5 mm, apex acute. Stamines 5, glabrous. Style 2–15.5 mm, shorter to longer than corolla tube; stigma slightly capitate to obscurely lobed. Capsule globular, ca. 2–3 mm in diam.; persistent calyx papery, green, lobes spatulate; elongated scape thick, 0.5–6 cm, usually with 1 or 2 spatulate bracts. Seeds broadly elliptic, ca. 0.7 × 0.5 mm, testa reticulate. Fl. May–Jun, fr. Jun–Sep.

Mountain summits, bare rock faces; 2600–4500 m. W Sichuan, SE Xizang, NW Yunnan [N Myanmar].

3. *Diapensia wardii* W. E. Evans, Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edinburgh 15: 233. 1927.

西藏岩梅 xi zang yan mei

Shrublets, 10–15 cm tall. Leaves crowded towards apex of

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branchlets; petiole ca. 4 mm, base inflated and semiamplexicaul; leaf blade ovate to broadly elliptic, 6–10 × 4–7 mm, leathery, both surfaces smooth, abaxially surface pale green with a slightly raised midvein, adaxially green with slightly depressed midrib and veins, base broadly cuneate and gradually narrowed and attenuate into petiole, margin entire and slightly revolute, apex rounded to obtuse. Scape 1–2 cm; bracts 1, linear, near apex of scape. Sepals oblong, ca. 5 mm. Corolla purplish red, campanulate, 8–10 × 10–13 mm; lobes broadly ovate, ca. 6 × 6 mm, membranous, apex rounded. Stamens slightly exerted; staminodes membranous. Style purplish black, glabrous; stigma capitate. Capsule dark red, globular, ca. 4 mm in diam., 3-locular; persistent calyx ca. 6 mm, leaflike; elongated scape red, 4.5–8 cm. Fl. Jun–Jul, fr. Aug–Oct.

• Rock faces, under *Rhododendron* shrubs; 3200–3400 m. SE Xizang.

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