
杜香属  du xiang shu  
Fang Ruizheng (方瑞征 Fang Rhui-cheng); David F. Chamberlain

Shrubs evergreen, small, multibranched, with fragrant resin. Leaves shortly petiolate; leaf blade linear, linear-lanceolate, or narrowly oblong, leathery, abaxially with white and/or rusty brown-pilose or woolly indumentum, margin entire, recurved. Inflorescences terminal, racemose, many-flowered; bracts present at peduncle base, dry, membranous, soon deciduous; bractlets absent. Calyx small, 5-lobed, persistent. Corolla white, divided to base; lobes imbricate in bud. Stamens (5–)8–10, protruding beyond corolla; filaments linear; anthers small, abaxially connected, globose, without appendages. Flower disk 8–10-lobed. Ovary globose, 5-locular, lepidote. Style linear; stigma obtuse, 5-lobed. Capsule ellipsoid or cylindric, opening from base. Seeds tiny.

Three or four species; circumboreal in temperate and cold-temperate regions; one species in China.


**Ledum subulatum** (Nakai) A. P. Khokhrjakov & Mazurenko (in Kharkevich, Sosud. Rast. Sovetsk. Dal’nego Vostoka 5: 125. 1991; *L. palustre* var. *subulatum* Nakai, Bot. Mag (Tokyo) 31: 103. 1917; *Rhododendron subulatum* (Nakai) Harmaja) was described from N Korea and has been recorded also from Japan and (mainly) Russia. Harmaja (Ann. Bot. Fenn. 39: 183–184. 2002) also cited “NE China,” but without locality. The taxon is said to have a subulate leaf blade, 10–36 × 1–3 mm, with a revolute margin and reddish brown, floccose hairs abaxially. From this description it is unclear how distinct *L. subulatum* is from *L. palustre*.


杜香  du xiang  
Shrubs erect or creeping, to 50 cm tall. Branches slender; young branches densely covered with rust-colored wool; terminal buds conspicuous, ovoid, scales densely rufous-woolly. Leaf blade linear, linear-lanceolate, or narrowly oblong, 1–8 × 0.1–1.5 cm, abaxially densely rufous-hairy or woolly, sometimes also white-pubescent, with raised midvein, adaxially dark green and wrinkled, margin strongly or slightly recurved. Inflorescence many-flowered; pedicels thin. Calyx lobes 5, ovate, 5–8 mm, persistent. Corolla milky white, 5–25 mm, densely rufous-woolly. Stamens 10; filaments pilose at base. Style persistent, 2–4 mm. Capsule ovoid, 3.5–4 mm. Fl. Jun–Jul, fr. Jul–Aug.

Coniferous forests, forest margins, marshes, wet meadows; 400–1400 m. Heilongjiang, Jilin, Nei Mongol [N Korea, Mongolia, Russia; NE Asia, C and N Europe, North America].

1a. Leaf blade linear-lanceolate or narrowly oblong, 2–8 × 0.4–1.5 cm .......................... 1b. var. *dilatatum*  
1b. Leaf blade linear, 1–3 × 0.1–0.3 cm.  
   2a. Shrubs creeping; leaf blade abaxially densely rufous-hairy and white-pubescent ..................................... 1c. var. *decumbens*  
   2b. Shrubs often erect; leaf blade abaxially densely rufous-woolly, not white-pubescent  

1a. *Ledum palustre* var. *palustre*  
杜香(原变种) du xiang (yuan bian zhong)  
*Ledum tomentosum* Stokes, nom. illeg. superfl.; *Rhododendron palustre* (Linnaeus) Kron & Judd (1990), not Turczaninow ex de Candolle (1839); *R. tomentosum* Harmaja.

Shrubs often erect. Leaf blade linear, 1–3 × 0.1–0.3 cm, abaxially densely rufous-woolly, not white-pubescent, margin strongly recurved.

Often dominant in coniferous forests, marshes; 400–1400 m. Heilongjiang, Jilin, Nei Mongol [N Korea, Mongolia, Russia; NE Asia, C and N Europe, North America].

宽叶杜香 kuan ye du xiang  
Leaf blade linear-lanceolate or narrowly oblong, 2–8 × 0.4–1.5 cm, abaxially rufous-hairy and white-pubescent, margin slightly recurved.

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Coniferous forests, forest margins, marshes, wet meadows. Heilongjiang, Jilin [N Korea, Russia; NE Asia, N Europe].


小叶杜香 xiao ye du xiang


Shrubs creeping. Leaf blade linear, 1–1.5 × 0.1–0.15 cm, abaxially densely rufous-hairy and white-pubescent, margin slightly recurved.

Often dominant in coniferous forests, marshes. Heilongjiang, Nei Mongol [Mongolia; NE Asia, C and N Europe, North America].