

**38. PETROSELINUM** Hill, Brit. Herb. 424. 1756.

欧芹属 ou qin shu

She Menglan (余孟兰 Sheh Meng-lan); Mark F. Watson

Herbs biennial, rarely annual, glabrous. Root narrowly conic. Stem erect, branching above, base without remnant sheaths. Leaf blades triangular, 2–3-pinnate; ultimate segments ovate to linear, toothed or lobed. Umbels loose compound, terminal and axillary; bracts few or absent; bracteoles several. Calyx teeth obsolete. Petals yellow or yellowish-green, obovate, apex emarginate, narrow, inflexed. Stylopodium low-conic; styles short, spreading. Fruit ovoid-oblong, slightly flattened laterally, mericarps subrounded in cross section, commissure constricted, glabrous, shiny; ribs 5, filiform, prominent; vittae 1 in each furrow, 2 on commissure. Seed face plane. Carpophore 2-cleft to base or to middle.

About two species: native in S and W Europe; cultivated worldwide; one species (introduced) in China.

**1. *Petroselinum crispum*** (Miller) Nyman ex A. W. Hill, Hand-List Herb. Pl. Kew., ed. 3, 122. 1925.

欧芹 ou qin

*Apium crispum* Miller, Gard. Dict., ed. 8, *Apium* no. 2. 1768; *Petroselinum hortense* Hoffmann var. *crispum* (Miller) L. H. Bailey.

Plant 30–100 cm. Basal leaves long-petiolate, petioles 3–7 cm, narrowly sheathing at base; blade 5–8 × 4–7 cm; ultimate segments narrowly elliptic or ovate, 4–12 × 1.5–9 mm, 3-parted or deeply toothed, teeth obtuse, white-mucronate, adaxially

shiny. Leaves reduced upwards, becoming 3-lobed, segments narrower, lanceolate-linear, entire or 3-lobed. Umbels 3–6(–8) cm across; bracts 1–2 or absent, linear, 2–5 mm, apex acute, thinly coriaceous; rays 10–25(–30), 1–2.5(–5) cm, subequal; bracteoles 6–8, linear or subulate, 1.5–2.5 mm, shorter than flowers; umbellules ca. 20-flowered; pedicels 1.5–4.5 mm. Fruit 2–4 × 1.5–3 mm, gray-brown. Fl. and fr. Jun–Jul.

Cultivated in some cities in China [possibly native to the W Mediterranean region].

This species is cultivated in many temperate countries worldwide as a culinary herb (parsley) and is often adventive. It has reputed medicinal value.

