

2. AEGICERAS Gaertner, Fruct. & Sem. 1: 216. 1788.

蜡烛果属 *la zhu guo shu*

Shrubs or small trees. Leaves alternate or subopposite. Inflorescences terminal or rarely axillary, umbellate. Flowers bisexual, 5-merous. Corolla campanulate, united into a tube; lobes ovate or ovate-lanceolate, imbricate, overlapping to right in bud, recurved or reflexed at anthesis, not glandular. Basal part of filaments united into a tube as long as corolla tube, distal part free, exerted; anthers ovate, 2-celled, dehiscing longitudinally, transversely septate. Ovary superior; ovules numerous, within a globose placenta. Style elongated; stigma apiculate. Fruit elongated, terete, curved, 1-seeded capsules; exocarp dry, crustaceous, dehiscing by a longitudinal fissure or separating into 2 fragments along back and front; endocarp somewhat fleshy; persistent calyx compactly enclosing fruit base. Seeds occupying whole cavity; embryo terete, curved.

Two species: India, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, and Australia; one species in China.

1. *Aegiceras corniculatum* (Linnaeus) Blanco, Fl. Filip. 79. 1837.

蜡烛果 *la zhu guo*

Rhizophora corniculata Linnaeus, Amoen. Acad. 4: 123. 1759; *Aegiceras majus* Gaertner; *Umbraculum corniculatum* (Linnaeus) Kuntze.

Plants ca. 1.5 m tall. Branchlets reddish or blackish brown, glabrous. Petiole 5–10 mm; leaf blade elliptic or broadly obovate, 3–8 × 2–4.5 cm, leathery, base cuneate, margin entire, revolute, apex rounded or emarginate; lateral veins 7–11 on each side of midrib, densely puberulent abaxially. Inflorescences terminal, subsessile, ca. 10-flowered; bracts oblong-lanceolate, deciduous. Pedicel ca. 1 cm, ± glandular. Flowers ca. 1 cm. Calyx lobes rhomboid, 5–6 × 3–4 mm, leathery, prominently veined, black glandular at base, asymmetric, entire, apex broadly rounded. Corolla white, ca. 9 mm; lobes ovate, ca. 5 mm, asymmetric, acuminate, reflexed; tube 3–4 mm, villous inside. Stamens longer than corolla tube; filaments villous basally on outside, glabrous inside; anthers ca. 3 mm. Style black glandular basally. Fruit 6(–8) cm, 5–6 mm in diam., glabrous, base clasped by twisted persistent sepals. Fl. Dec–Feb, fr. Oct–Dec.

Mangrove, muddy flats, coasts. Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Nanhai Zhudao [India, Malaysia, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Vietnam; Australia].

