

6. MELLIODENDRON Handel-Mazzetti, Anz. Akad. Wiss. Wien., Math.-Naturwiss. Kl.
59: 109. 1922.

陀螺果 tuo lu guo shu

Trees deciduous. Winter buds ovate, enclosed by scales. Leaves alternate; stipules absent; leaf blade margin serrate. Pedicel elongated, jointed. Flowers bisexual, 1 or 2 in leaf axils of older shoots, opening before or at same time as leaves. Calyx tube obconical, adnate to ovary, 4-toothed to undulate, expanded in fruit. Corolla campanulate, divided almost to base; lobes 5, imbricate. Stamens 10, in 1 series, equal, much shorter than corolla; filaments basally connate into a tube, adnate to corolla tube; anthers oblong. Ovary inferior, imperfectly 5-locular; ovules 4 per locule, erect to pendulous; placentation axile. Style slender, linear; stigma capitate or obscurely 5-lobed. Fruit mostly adnate to calyx, ribbed or angular, tomentose apex usually produced beyond calyx into a beak, wall thick and woody, indehiscent. Seeds ellipsoid, flattened; seed coat membranous; endosperm fleshy.

* One species: endemic to China.

1. Melliodendron xylocarpum Handel-Mazzetti, Anz. Akad. Wiss. Wien, Math.-Naturwiss. Kl. 59: 109. 1922.

陀螺果 tuo lu guo

Melliodendron jifungense Hu; *M. wangianum* Hu.

Trees 6–20 m tall. Trunk to 20 cm d.b.h.; bark gray-brown often irregularly exfoliated. Winter buds ovate, ca. 1 cm. Petiole 3–10 mm; leaf blade ovate-lanceolate to oblong-elliptic, 9.5–21 × 3–8 cm, papery, densely stellate pubescent when young, glabrescent except on veins, base cuneate, apex short acuminate to acute; secondary veins 7–9 per side, tertiary veins reticulate, abaxially raised. Flowers subsessile or on pedicel to 1.5 cm. Calyx 3–4 mm; teeth ca. 2 mm. Corolla lobes oblong, 2–3 × 0.8–1.5 cm. Style ca. 1.3 cm. Fruit variable in form and size, usually obovoid, obconical, or obovoid-pyriform, (2–)4–7 × 1.5–3(–4) cm, 5–10-ribbed, densely gray stellate tomentose, apex rounded, acute, or short beaked. Fl. Apr–May, fr. Jul–Oct.

* Forest ravines; 600–1500 m. Fujian, N Guangdong, NW Guangxi, Guizhou, Hunan, Jiangxi, S Sichuan, SE Yunnan.

