

# 11. SARCOSPERMA J. D. Hooker in Bentham & J. D. Hooker, Gen. Pl. 2: 655. 1876.

肉实树属 rou shi shu shu

Trees evergreen. Leaves opposite, subopposite, or rarely spirally arranged; stipules small, early deciduous and leaving conspicuous scars on petiole, sometimes subpersistent; leaf blade subleathery. Flowers small, solitary or clustered on axillary racemes or panicles; bracts small, triangular. Sepals 5, rounded, imbricate. Corolla broadly campanulate; lobes 5, ovate. Stamens 5, inserted on corolla tube, opposite lobes; staminodes 5, subulate to triangular, inserted in throat, alternate with corolla lobes. Ovary 1- or 2-locular, glabrous. Style short; stigma 2-lobed. Fruit a drupe, ellipsoid, 1- or 2-seeded; pericarp very thin. Seed scar small, rounded.

About eight or nine species: India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam; four species in China.

*Sarcosperma* has been placed in its own family, Sarcospermaceae, but it is more usually regarded as member of the Sapotaceae.

- 1a. Leaves with slender stipules at top of petiole ..... 1. *S. kachinense*
- 1b. Leaves without stipules.
  - 2a. Leaf blade abaxially with glandular pits in axils of most main lateral veins ..... 2. *S. arboreum*
  - 2a. Leaves without glandular pits.
    - 3a. Leaf blade lanceolate, (1.5–)2–4(–5.5) cm wide ..... 3. *S. griffithii*
    - 3b. Leaf blade obovate to oblanceolate, 3–6 cm wide ..... 4. *S. laurinum*

**1. *Sarcosperma kachinense*** (King & Prain) Exell, J. Bot. 69: 100. 1931.

绒毛肉实树 rong mao rou shi shu

Trees (3–)6–10(–15) m tall. Bark grayish white. Leaves subopposite; stipules 2, subulate, 4–7 mm, densely rust colored tomentose, early deciduous; petiole 0.5–1.5 cm, with 2 subulate appendages at petiole apex, densely rust colored tomentose; leaf blade oblong, elliptic, or obovate-elliptic, 10–26 × 4–9 cm, papery, abaxially yellow or rust colored pubescent especially on veins but glabrescent, adaxially glabrous or sparsely rust colored pubescent when young, base cuneate, sometimes obtuse, or rounded, apex acuminate; lateral veins 6–11 pairs. Racemes axillary, single or forming complex panicle, 4–8(–17) cm. Flowers clustered, aromatic. Pedicel 3–5 mm, densely tomentose. Sepals 2–3 mm, broadly ovate, outside densely tomentose, inside glabrous. Corolla white, 3.5–5 mm; lobes ovate to subrounded, 1.5–2 mm, glabrous. Stamines 5. Ovary ovoid, 1–2 mm, 2-locular. Style short, thick; stigma 2-cleft. Fruit green, becoming red, oblong, 2–2.8 × ca. 1 cm, 1-seeded; calyx persistent. Fl. Oct–Feb.

100–1500 m. Guangxi, Hainan, S and SE Yunnan [N Vietnam].

- 1a. Branchlets and petioles densely tomentose ..... 1a. var. *kachinense*
- 1b. Branchlets and petioles glabrous ..... var. *simondii*

**1a. *Sarcosperma kachinense* var. *kachinense***

绒毛肉实树 (原变种) rong mao rou shi shu (yuan bian zhong)

*Combretum kachinense* King & Prain, J. Asiat. Bengal, Pt. 2, Nat. Hist. 69: 169. 1900.

Branchlets densely rust colored tomentose. Petiole and inflorescences densely rust colored to yellow tomentose. Stamines subulate-triangular. Fl. Oct–Feb.

Forests; 100–1500 m. Guangxi, Hainan, S and SE Yunnan [Vietnam].

The fruit contains a dye, and the plant is a source of timber.

**1b. *Sarcosperma kachinense* var. *simondii*** (Gagnepain) H. J. Lam & P. Royen, Blumea 7: 151. 1952.

光序肉实树 guang xu rou shi shu

*Sarcosperma simondii* Gagnepain, Bull. Mus. Natl. Hist. Nat., sér. 2, 20: 294. 1948.

Young branchlets and petioles glabrous. Leaf blade pubescent when young but abaxially glabrescent, sometimes with glandular pits in axils of lateral veins. Inflorescences slightly pubescent. Stamines subulate to sometimes lanceolate-linear, inflexed, carinate. Fl. Oct–Feb.

Dense forests in valleys; 600–1000 m. S Yunnan [N Vietnam].

**2. *Sarcosperma arboreum*** Buchanan-Hamilton ex C. B. Clarke in J. D. Hooker, Fl. Brit. India 3: 535. 1882.

大肉实树 da rou shi shu

Trees 20(–28) m tall. Trunk to 40(–50) cm d.b.h.; bark grayish brown. Young branchlets sparsely rust colored tomentose. Leaves opposite or subopposite, sometimes alternate; stipules subulate, 3–4 mm, early deciduous; petiole 1–2(–3) cm, without appendages; leaf blade oblong or rarely elliptic, 10–18(–35) × 4–8(–13) cm, glabrous, base cuneate and usually oblique, apex acuminate to acute; lateral veins (7 or)8–11(–13) pairs, with conspicuous glandular pits in axils. Flowers in panicles, rarely racemes, rust colored tomentose, aromatic. Sepals ovate, 2–3 × 1.5–2.5 mm, margin membranous, outside rust colored tomentose, inside glabrous. Corolla green, becoming white, 4–5 mm; lobes obovate to oblong, 2.5–3 mm, glabrous. Stamines narrowly triangular to subulate, 0.5–1 mm. Ovary subglobose, ca. 1.5 mm, glabrous, apex acuminate. Stigma 3-cleft. Drupes green-purple, oblong, 1.5–2.5 × 0.7–1.5 cm, glabrous, 1-seeded. Fl. Sep–Apr, fr. Mar–Jun.

Forests; 500–2500 m. Guangxi, Guizhou, Yunnan [NE India, Myanmar, Thailand].

**3. *Sarcosperma griffithii*** J. D. Hooker ex C. B. Clarke in J. D. Hooker, Fl. Brit. India 3: 536. 1882.

小叶肉实树 xiao ye rou shi shu

Trees to 7.5 m tall. Trunk to 25 cm d.b.h. Leaves subopposite; petiole (0.4–)1(–1.3) cm, without appendages; leaf blade lanceolate, (5.5–)8–14(–20) × (1.5–)2–4(–5.5) cm, subglabrous, base cuneate, apex acuminate; lateral veins 6–8(or 9) pairs, without or with very few glandular pits. Inflorescences panicles or rarely racemes, axillary, 3.2–6.8 cm. Flowers pale green. Pedicel 2–3 mm, brown tomentose. Sepals ovate, ca. 2 mm, outside brown tomentose except membranous margin, inside glabrous. Corolla 3–4 mm; lobes subrounded, 1.5–2 mm. Stamens ca. 1 mm; staminodes triangular to subulate-triangular. Ovary ovoid to subglobose, 1–1.5 mm, glabrous, 2-locular. Fruit not seen. Fl. autumn.

Mixed forests; ca. 1900 m. Yunnan (Xishuangbanna Zhou) [NE India].

**4. *Sarcosperma laurinum*** (Benth) J. D. Hooker in Benth & J. D. Hooker, Gen. Pl. 2: 655. 1876.

肉实树 rou shi shu

*Reptonia laurina* Benth, Fl. Hongk. 208. 1861.

Trees 6–15(–26) m tall. Trunk 6–20 cm d.b.h., conspicuously buttressed; bark grayish brown, thin, smooth. Branchlets angulate, glabrous. Leaves mostly alternate, some opposite, some whorled at end of branchlets; stipules subulate, 2–3 mm; petiole 1–2 cm, without appendage; leaf blade usually obovate to oblanceolate, rarely narrowly elliptic, 7–16(–19) × 3–6 cm, subleathery, glabrous, adaxially dark and shiny green, base cuneate, apex usually acute, sometimes obtuse to obtuse-acuminate; lateral veins 6–9 pairs. Racemes or panicles axillary, 2–13 cm. Flowers aromatic. Pedicel 1–5 mm, yellow-brown tomentose. Sepals 2–3 mm, broadly ovate to subrounded, outside yellow-brown tomentose, inside glabrous. Corolla green, becoming pale yellow; lobes broadly obovate to subrounded, 2–2.5 mm. Stamines subulate, longer than stamens. Ovary ovoid, 1–1.5 mm, 1-locular, glabrous. Style thick, ca. 1 mm. Drupe green, becoming red and finally black, oblong to ellipsoid, 1.5–2.5 × 0.8–1 cm, base with recurved persistent calyx, pericarp very thin. Seeds 1, ca. 1.7 × 0.8 cm. Fl. Aug–Sep, fr. Dec–Jan.

Forests in valleys or along streams; 400–500 m. Fujian, Guangxi, Hainan, Zhejiang [N Vietnam].