

15. ANCHUSA Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 133. 1753.

牛舌草属 niu she cao shu

Lycopsis Linnaeus.

Herbs annual or perennial, sparsely strigose or hispid, rarely soft appressed pubescent. Stems erect or spreading. Leaves alternate. Cymes terminal, widely spaced in fruit, scorpioid; bracts lanceolate. Calyx 5-parted nearly to base or less; lobes equal or unequal, linear to triangular, often slightly enlarged in fruit. Corolla blue-purple or yellowish, regular or slightly zygomorphic; tube usually longer than calyx, straight or arcuate or geniculate curved; throat appendages scaly or tuberculate and short pubescent; limb campanulate; lobes 5, equal or unequal, apex obtuse. Stamens inserted at or below middle of corolla tube, included; filaments short, filiform; anthers ovate-oblong, apex obtuse. Ovary 4-divided. Style included in corolla tube; stigma capitate, 2-cleft. Gynobase flat. Nutlets straight, reniform, or oblique-ovoid, reticulate-wrinkled; attachment scar at or near base, margin ringlike, thickened, hardened.

About 50 species: N Africa, C and W Asia, Europe; one species in China.

1. *Anchusa ovata* Lehmann, Pl. Asperif. Nucif. 1: 122. 1818.

狼紫草 lang zi cao

Anchusa orientalis (Linnaeus) Reichenbach; *Lycopsis arvensis* Linnaeus subsp. *orientalis* (Linnaeus) Kuntze; *L. orientalis* Linnaeus.

Herbs annual. Stems branching usually from base, 10–40 cm tall, sparsely spreading hirsute. Basal and lower stem leaves petiolate, oblanceolate to linear-oblong, 4–14 × 1.2–3 cm, sparsely hirsute, margin undulate, denticulate. Cymes short at anthesis, becoming gradually elongated, to 25 cm; bracts ovate to linear-lanceolate, smaller than leaves. Pedicel ca. 2 mm, to 1.5 cm in fruit. Calyx ca. 7 mm, semiappressed hispid; lobes somewhat unequal, subulate, enlarged in fruit, substellate spreading. Corolla blue-purple, sometimes reddish purple, ca. 7 mm, glabrous; tube below middle slightly geniculately curved; appendages densely short pubescent; lobes spreading, wider than long. Stamens inserted below middle of corolla tube; filaments extremely short; anthers ca. 1 mm. Style ca. 2.5 mm. Nutlets bright brown, reniform, 3–3.5 × ca. 2 mm, finely tuberculate; attachment scar near base, cupular, margin without teeth. Seeds brown; cotyledons narrowly oblong. Fl. and fr. May-Jul. $2n = 16, 48$.

Hillsides, marshes, field margins. Gansu, Hainan, Hebei, Nei Mongol, Ningxia, Qinghai, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Xinjiang, Xizang [Afghanistan, N India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan; NE Africa, SW Asia, SE Europe].

The seeds contain an edible oil. *Anchusa orientalis* Linnaeus is a different species, blocking the transfer of the epithet from *Lycopsis*.

