

### 36. APOCYNUM Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 213. 1753.

罗布麻属 *luo bu ma shu*

*Poacynum* Baillon; *Trachomitum* Woodson.

Herbs perennial, sometimes shrubs, latex white. Rhizomes fibrous. Leaves opposite, rarely alternate, margin denticulate. Inflorescences thyrse-like, terminal. Corolla campanulate or basin-shaped; throat wide, open; lobes overlapping to right. Stamens inserted at base of corolla tube, alternate with corona lobes; anthers adherent to pistil head; disc scales fleshy. Ovary half-inferior; carpels 2, free; ovules numerous in each locule. Follicles 2, slender, divaricate. Seeds numerous, apically comose; embryo straight, cotyledons as long as radicle.

Nine species: temperate regions of North America, Europe, and Asia; two species in China.

- 1a. Corolla campanulate, deeper than wide; leaves usually opposite ..... 1. *A. venetum*
- 1b. Corolla basin-shaped, wider than deep; leaves usually alternate ..... 2. *A. pictum*

#### 1. *Apocynum venetum* Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 213. 1753.

罗布麻 *luo bu ma*

*Apocynum lancifolium* Russanov; *A. venetum* var. *ellipticifolium* Beguinot & Belanger; *A. venetum* var. *microphyllum* Beguinot & Belanger; *Trachomitum lancifolium* (Russanov) Pobedimova; *T. venetum* (Linnaeus) Woodson; *T. venetum* var. *ellipticifolium* (Beguinot & Belanger) Woodson; *T. venetum* var. *microphyllum* (Beguinot & Belanger) Woodson.

4 mm. Corolla pink or purplish red, often with distinct darker markings; tube basin-shaped, 2.5–7 mm; lobes broadly triangular, 2.5–4 mm; corona inserted at base of corolla tube, lobes broadly triangular, apex long acuminate. Follicles slender, pendulous, 10–30 cm × 3–4 mm. Seeds narrowly ovoid, 2.5–3 mm; coma 1.5–2.5 cm. Fl. Apr-Sep, fr. Jul-Dec.

Salt-barren areas, desert margins, riversides. Gansu, Qinghai, Xinjiang [Kazakhstan, Mongolia].

Same uses as the preceding species.

Stems to 4 m tall, glabrous except for inflorescences; branches and branchlets whitish gray, terete, finely striate. Leaves usually opposite; petiole 3–6 mm; leaf blade narrowly elliptic to narrowly ovate, 1–8 × 0.5–2.2 cm, base rounded or cuneate, margin denticulate, apex acute or obtuse, mucronate. Sepals narrowly elliptic or narrowly ovate, ca. 1.5 mm. Corolla purplish red or pink; tube campanulate, 6–8 mm, granulose; lobes 3–4 mm. Disc fleshy, 5-lobed; lobes rounded, base adnate to ovary. Follicles slender, 8–20 cm × 2–3 mm. Seeds ovoid or ellipsoid, 2–3 mm, coma 1.5–2.5 cm. Fl. Apr-Sep, fr. Jul-Dec.  $2n = 22$ .

Salt-barren zone, desert margins, alluvial flats, riversides. Gansu, Hebei, Henan, Jiangsu, Liaoning, Nei Mongol, Qinghai, Shaanxi, Shandong, Shanxi, Xinjiang, Xizang [India, Japan, Mongolia, Pakistan, Russia; SW Asia, Europe].

The strong bast fibers obtained from the inner bark are used in making cloth, strings, sails, fishing nets, and high-quality paper. The leaves yield up to 5% gum, which is used for making rubber, and a medicine used as a sedative and to treat hypertension. The species has fragrant flowers and is grown as a honey plant.

#### 2. *Apocynum pictum* Schrenk, Bull. Cl. Phys.-Math. Acad. Imp. Sci. Saint-Petersbourg 2: 115. 1844.

白麻 *bai ma*

*Apocynum hendersonii* J. D. Hooker; *Poacynum hendersonii* (J. D. Hooker) Woodson; *P. pictum* (Schrenk) Baillon.

Stems to 2 m tall. Branchlets pubescent when young, soon glabrous. Leaves usually alternate; petiole 2–5 mm, rarely shorter; leaf blade oblong to ovate, 1.5–4 × 0.2–2.3 cm, closely denticulate, granulose. Sepals ovate or triangular, 1.5–

