
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 thyrselike, 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


罗布麻 luo bu ma

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

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 zones, 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 nests, 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.


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 2.5–5 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–