

36. BELOSTEMMA Wallich ex Wight, Contr. Bot. India 52. 1834.

箭药藤属 jian yao teng shu

Lianas, slender, woody. Inflorescences extra-axillary; peduncle and pedicels slender. Sepals overlapping; basal glands 5. Corolla rotate; tube short; lobes valvate. Corona lobes 5, inserted at back of stamens, fleshy, horned-falcate, horizontally stellate spreading. Filaments connate into a tube; anther appendages membranous, broadly ovate, covering stigma head; pollinia 2 per pollinarium, subglobose, horizontal or suberect. Gynostegium exceeding corolla tube. Stigma head discoid.

Three species: India, Nepal, China; all three in China.

Often included in *Tylophora*, differing only by the slender spreading corona lobes.

- 1a. Leaves 8.5–11 × 7–8 cm; calyx and corolla glabrous; corolla yellow or yellowish 3. *B. cordifolium*
- 1b. Leaves 2.5–6 × 1.2–3 cm; calyx and corolla hairy; corolla purple or green with reddish margin.
 - 2a. Leaf blade ovate-cordate, base cordate; branches, leaves, and outside of calyx hispid 1. *B. hirsutum*
 - 2b. Leaf blade ovate, base broadly cuneate or rounded; branches pubescent along 2 lines; leaves and outside of calyx glabrous or glabrescent; sepals ciliate 2. *B. yunnanense*

1. *Belostemma hirsutum* Wallich ex Wight, Contr. Bot. India 52.1834.

箭药藤 jian yao teng

Tylophora belostemma Bentham, not *T. hirsuta* Wight.

Lianas to 4 m, hirsute throughout. Petiole 1–2 cm; leaf blade ovate-oblong, 2.5–5 × 1.2–3 cm, membranous, base shallowly cordate, apex acuminate; lateral veins 4 or 5 pairs. Inflorescences shorter than leaves, with 1 or 2, many-flowered, umbel-like cymules; peduncle shorter than pedicels, 0.5–1.5 cm, rachis when present much shorter; bracts linear, to 2 mm. Pedicel threadlike, 1–2 cm. Sepals broadly lanceolate, ca. 0.8 mm. Corolla purple, rotate, glabrous except for lobes; tube ca. 0.7 mm radius; lobes oblong, ca. 2 × 1 mm, apex rounded, sparsely pilose toward margin. Corona dark purple except for conspicuous pale margin of anther appendages; pollinia suberect. Ovaries glabrous. Stigma head flattened. Follicles solitary, apparently slender fusiform (mature fruit not seen). Fl. Jul.

Dense forests, thickets; 700–1500 m. Sichuan, S Yunnan [India, Nepal].

2. *Belostemma yunnanense* Tsiang, Sunyatsenia 6: 139. 1941.

镰药藤 lian yao teng

Lianas to 5 m. Branches pubescent along 2 lines. Petiole 5–13 mm, pubescent; leaf blade ovate, 3.5–6 × 1.2–2.8 cm, membranous, base broadly cuneate or rounded, margin ciliate, glabrous or glabrescent, apex acuminate; lateral veins 3 or 4 pairs. Inflorescences 10–12-flowered; peduncle and pedicel glabrous. Sepals lanceolate, glabrous, ciliate. Corolla green outside, margin reddish; lobes ovate-oblong, 3–4 × ca. 2.5 mm, pubescent inside. Ovaries glabrous. Fl. May.

• Montane forests; 1400 m. SE Yunnan.

3. *Belostemma cordifolium* (Link, Klotzsch, & Otto) P. T. Li, J. S. China Agric. Univ. 15(1): 64. 1994.

心叶箭药藤 xin ye jian yao teng

Hybanthera cordifolia Link, Klotzsch, & Otto, Icon. Pl. Rar. 109. 1831; *Tylophora cordifolia* (Link, Klotzsch, & Otto) Bentham & J. D. Hooker ex Kuntze; *T. cordifolia* Thwaites; *Vincetoxicum hybanthera* Kuntze, not *Vincetoxi-cum cordifolius* (Thwaites) Kuntze.

Shrubs scandent, glabrous throughout. Petiole ca. 3 cm; leaf blade ovate-cordate, 8.5–11 × 7–8 cm, base cordate, apex short acute; lateral veins 5 or 6 pairs. Inflorescences shorter than leaves; peduncle robust, to 3 cm. Pedicel 3–4 cm, purple. Sepals ovate-triangular, margin purple. Corolla rotate, ca. 2.5 cm in diam., yellow or yellowish; tube much shorter than lobes; lobes broadly ovate. Corona lobes with a horned oblong spur. Stamens oblong, anther appendages broadly ovate; pollinia subglobose, subhorizontal. Ovaries ovoid. Stigma head pentagonal, apex rounded.

• Forest edges or thickets. S China (locality not given) [described from material cultivated in England].

Belostemma cordifolium was described from material cultivated in England in the early nineteenth century. No material has been seen to match the very clear illustration in the original publication, and it is likely that the species is now extinct.

