

13. VERATRILLA Baillon ex Franchet, Bull. Soc. Bot. France 46: 310. 1899.

黄秦艽属 huang qin jiao shu

Herbs perennial, dioecious. Roots stout, obconic, slightly fleshy. Caudex sheathed by blackish remains of old petioles. Vegetative stems short with a rosette of leaves; flowering stems erect, stout, terete, striate, simple. Basal leaves petiole slender; leaf blade oblong-spatulate, base narrowed, apex obtuse to rounded, veins 3–5. Stem leaves sessile, smaller toward apex, base rounded and subamplexicaul, apex obtuse, veins 3–5. Inflorescences panicles of cymes with many small flowers, rounded in male plants, narrower and ± elongated in female plants. Flowers 4-merous. Calyx and corolla rotate, lobed nearly to base; each corolla lobe with 1 or 2 gland patches. Stamens inserted at sinus between corolla lobes. Ovary 1-celled. Style short. Capsules 2-valved, many seeded. Seeds small, discoid winged.

Two species: Bhutan, SW China, NE India, Sikkim; both species in China.

- 1a. Each corolla lobe with a purple gland patch often divided into 2 separate patches; capsules 6–7 mm; seeds 1.7–2 mm 1. *V. baillonii*
- 1b. Each corolla lobe with 1 blue gland patch; capsules 10–15 mm; seeds ca. 5 mm 2. *V. burkilliana*

1. *Veratrilla baillonii* Franchet, Bull. Soc. Bot. France 46: 311. 1899.

discoid, ca. 5 × 3–4 mm; seed coat with honeycomblike pits. Fl. and fr. Jul-Aug.

黄秦艽 huang qin jiao

Wet places; 4000–4300 m. S Xizang [Bhutan, Sikkim].

Swertia mekongensis I. B. Balfour & Forrest.

Plants 30–45(–85) cm tall. Basal leaf petiole (2–)5–8 cm; leaf blade 5–14 × 1.2–2.5 cm. Stem leaves ovate-elliptic, 3.5–8 × 1.3–3.5 cm. Calyx lobes apex obtuse, veins 1–3. Corolla yellow-green, with purple veins, 6–7 mm, tube 1–1.5 mm; lobes oblong-spatulate, 4–5 mm, apex obtuse. Inflorescences of male plants a large crowded panicle. Calyx lobes linear-lanceolate, 2–2.5 mm. Stamens fertile; filaments 1.5–2 mm; anthers ellipsoid, 0.8–1 mm. Pistil aborted. Inflorescences of female plants lax, racemelike, few flowered. Calyx lobes ovate-lanceolate, 4–5 mm. Corolla lobes obtuse, with a purple gland patch often divided longitudinally into 2 separate patches. Stamens sterile, ca. 0.5 mm. Pistil 4–5 mm. Ovary ovoid. Style indistinct; stigma lobes suborbicular. Capsules ovoid, 6–7 mm. Seeds dark brown, subdiscoid, 1.7–2 mm; broadly winged; seed coat reticulate. Fl. and fr. May-Aug.

Meadow slopes, scrub, alpine scrub meadows; 3200–4600 m. W Sichuan, SE Xizang, NW Yunnan [E India].

2. *Veratrilla burkilliana* (W. W. Smith) Harry Smith in S. Nilsson, Grana Palynol. 7(1): 145. 1967.

短叶黄秦艽 duan ye huang qin jiao

Swertia burkilliana W. W. Smith, J. Proc. Asiat. Soc. Bengal 7: 78. 1911.

Plants 15–30(–50) cm tall. Roots 10–12 × 2–3 cm. Basal leaf petiole 10–15 cm; leaf blade 7–10 × 2–2.5 cm. Stem leaves 3–6 pairs, elliptic to ovate-elliptic, 4–5(–9) × to 3 cm. Inflorescences of male plants very crowded, 3–8 × 3–4 cm. Calyx lobes triangular-lanceolate, 1.5–2 mm, apex obtuse, veins 1–3. Corolla dirty white to green, with purple streaks and spots, tube 1–1.5 mm; lobes oblanceolate, 5–7 mm, each with 1 blue gland patch, apex obtuse. Stamens fertile; filaments 1.5–2 mm; anthers ellipsoid, 0.8–1 mm. Pistil abortive. Inflorescences of female plants lax, narrow, few flowered, 8–10 × ca. 2.5 cm in fruit. Calyx and corolla as in male inflorescence. Stamens sterile. Stigma lobes suborbicular. Capsules ovoid, 1–1.5 cm. Seeds dark brown,

