

12. VINCA Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 209. 1753.

蔓长春花属 man chang chun hua shu

Herbs with stolons and watery juice. Leaves opposite, entire, short petiolate, intra- and interpetiolar glands present. Flowers solitary or rarely in 2-flowered cymes, axillary. Calyx small, without glands. Corolla violet, funnelform, tube cylindric, hairy or with scales at throat; lobes obliquely obovate, spreading, shorter than tube, overlapping to left. Stamens inserted just below middle of corolla tube. Disc glands 2, ligulate, alternating with ovaries. Ovules 6–many. Style filiform; pistil head ringlike, apex densely hairy. Follicles 2, erect or spreading, cylindric, striate. Seeds glabrous.

About five species: W Asia, Europe; two species cultivated in China.

- 1a. Leaf blade truncate or subcordate at base, margin and calyx lobes ciliate; pedicel 3–5 cm 1. *V. major*
1b. Leaf blade narrow at base, margin and calyx lobes glabrous; pedicel 1–1.5 cm 2. *V. minor*

1. Vinca major Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 209. 1753.

蔓长春花 man chang chun hua

Vinca major var. *variegata* Loudon.

Herbs to 1 m tall, flowering stems to 30 cm. Leaf blade elliptic, ovate, or broadly ovate, 2–9 × 2–6 cm, base truncate or subcordate, margin ciliate with hairs 0.1–1 mm; lateral veins to 5 pairs. Pedicel 3–5 cm. Sepals narrowly triangular, ca. 9 mm, densely ciliate. Corolla bluish purple, tube 1.2–1.5 cm, limb 3–5 cm in diam., lobes obliquely truncate. Anthers short, applanate, apex puberulent. Follicles spreading, ca. 5 cm. Fl. Mar-May. $2n = 92$.

Jiangsu, Taiwan, Yunnan, Zhejiang [native to Europe].
Cultivated for medicine.

2. Vinca minor Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 209. 1753.

花叶蔓长春花 hua ye man chang chun hua

Herbs perennial. Flowering stems to 20 cm. Leaf blade oblong, ovate, or elliptic, 1–4.5 × 0.5–2.5 cm, base rounded or cuneate, margin not ciliate. Pedicel 1–1.5 cm. Sepals narrowly elliptic, 3–5 mm. Corolla lilac-blue, tube 0.9–1.1 cm, limb 2.5–3 cm in diam., lobes obliquely truncate. Filaments longer than anthers; anthers puberulent at apex. Follicles erect. Fl. May. $2n = 46$.

Jiangsu [introduced from Europe].
Cultivated for medicine.

