

42. ALECTRA Thunberg, Nov. Gen. Pl. 81. 1781.

黑蒴属 hei shuo shu

Melasma P. J. Bergius.

Herbs, erect, rigid, blackened when dry, scabrous. Leaves opposite or sometimes apically alternate; leaf blade margin entire or serrate, veins 3. Flowers in bracteate terminal spikes or racemes. Bracteoles 2, opposite. Calyx campanulate; lobes 5, valvate. Corolla subcampanulate; lobes 5, wide, spreading flat, imbricate; lower lobe outer in bud. Stamens 4, didynamous; anther locules parallel, distinct, bases mucronate. Style long, bent; stigma elongated, ligulate. Capsule subglobose, included, loculicidal; valves entire or 2-parted. Seeds numerous, minute.

About 30 species: tropical Africa, America, and Asia; one species in China.

1. *Alectra avensis* (Benth) Merrill, Philipp. J. Sci. Bot. 12: 109. 1917.

黑蒴 hei shuo

Glossostylis avensis Benth, Scroph. Ind. 49. 1835;

Alectra dentata (Benth) Kuntze; *A. indica*

Benth; *Hymenospermum dentatum* Benth;

Melasma avense (Benth) Handel-Mazzetti;

Micrargeria formosana (Hayata) Hayata; *Sopubia formosana* Hayata.

Annuals, 10–50 cm tall. Stems basally woody, simple or few branched, hairy. Leaves sessile or subsessile; leaf blade broadly ovate to ovate-lanceolate, 2–3 cm, papery, densely short hairy, adaxially sometimes setose when mature, base cuneate, margin with 2–6 pairs of coarse triangular teeth, apex obtuse to acuminate.

Racemes basally lax, apically dense. Bracteoles linear-oblong, narrow, longer to slightly shorter than calyx, hairy. Calyx ca. 5 mm, membranous, barbate; lobes triangular, nearly as long as tube. Corolla yellow, ca. 6–8 mm; tube broadly campanulate; lobes suborbicular, spreading; lower lobe slightly larger than other 4.

Stamens inserted near base of corolla tube; filaments of 2 anterior stamens with long multicellular glandular hairs. Stigma glandular velutinous. Seeds terete, to 1 mm; seed coat reticulate. Fl. and fr. Aug–Nov.

Grassland on mountain slopes, sparse forests; 700–2100 m.

Guangdong, Guangxi, Taiwan, Yunnan [Bhutan, India, Indonesia (Java), Myanmar, Philippines, Sikkim].

