Herbs, perennial, epipetric, rhizomatous, stemless or short and simple stemmed. Leaves few, basal or crowded above; leaf blade villous, base rounded to cordate. Inflorescences lax, axillary, 1–3-flowered cymes; bracts 2, opposite.

Calyx actinomorphic, 5-sect from base; segments equal. Corolla white, zygomorphic, inside glabrous; tube tubular-funnelform, slightly gibbous abaxially toward limb, much longer than limb, 1.2–1.5 cm in diam.; limb 2-lipped; adaxial lip 2-lobed, slightly shorter than abaxial lip; abaxial lip 3-lobed, lobes subequal, apex rounded. Stamens 4, adnate to corolla tube below middle, included; anthers basifixed, coherent in pairs, thecae subparallel, not confluent, dehiscing longitudinally; connective not projecting; staminode 1, adnate to adaxial side of corolla tube. Disc ringlike.

Ovary oblong, 2-loculed, only adaxial locule fertile; placenta 1, axile. Stigmas 2, equal, obovate, undivided. Capsule oblique in relation to pedicel, oblong, much longer than calyx, dehiscing loculicidally to above base; valves 2, straight, not twisted. Seeds unappendaged.

• One species: endemic to China.


筒花苣苔属 tong hua ju tai shu


筒花苣苔 tong hua ju tai


Plants stemless or stems to 4 cm. Petiole 2.5–14 cm, densely gray appressed villous; leaf blade ovate to suborbicular, 4–12 × 3.2–7.5 cm, gray villous, base rounded to cordate, margin entire to repand, apex rounded. Peduncle 6–12 cm, gray villous; bracts linear to lanceolate, 3–6 mm. Calyx segments linear to lanceolate, 5–13 × 1–2 mm, outside gray villous.

Corolla white, inside purple striate, 4–4.5 cm, outside white villous; tube 2.5–3.5 × 1.2–1.5 cm; adaxial lip ca. 7 mm; abaxial lip ca. 1.1 cm, all lobes suborbicular, 4–5 mm. Adaxial stamens ca. 1 cm, abaxial ones ca. 1.3 cm; staminode ca. 1.8 mm. Pistil ca. 2.3 cm, glabrous. Style ca. 1.5 cm. Capsule ca. 1.2 cm Fl. Aug.

• Shady, damp rocks in montane regions; 200–1500 m. Guizhou (Xishui Xian), S Sichuan, NE Yunnan (Yanjin Xian).