

44. SOPUBIA Buchanan-Hamilton ex D. Don, Prodr. Fl. Nepal. 88. 1825.

短冠草属 duan guan cao shu

Herbs, mostly annual. Stem branches opposite, rarely 3 in a whorl apically. Leaves entire or dissected. Flowers in terminal racemes or panicles, bracteate. Bracts foliaceous. Calyx campanulate, 5-lobed. Corolla lobes 5, spreading; lower lobes 2, inner in bud. Stamens 4, didynamous, included; anther locules 2 per stamen, 1 fertile, 1 reduced and empty. Stigma subligulate. Capsule ovoid to oblong, apex rounded or compressed, emarginate or deeply concave, loculicidal; valves not divided or shallowly lobed, separating from placental axis. Seeds numerous; seed coat loose.

About 40 species: Africa, tropical to subtropical E Asia; two species in China.

Sopubia stricta G. Don has been reported from the coast of Guangdong, but we have not seen Chinese specimens.

- 1a. Corolla tube ca. 3 mm; calyx lobes woolly inside, sinuses sharply angled; capsule glabrous, almost as long as or shorter than persistent calyx; pedicel ca. 10 mm 1. *S. trifida*
- 1b. Corolla tube ca. 7 mm; calyx lobes glabrous inside, sinuses rounded; capsule hispidulous, much longer than persistent calyx; pedicel 1.5–2 mm or flower subsessile 2. *S. lasiocarpa*

1. *Sopubia trifida* Buchanan-Hamilton ex D. Don, Prodr. Fl. Nepal. 88. 1825.

短冠草 duan guan cao

Annuals, 40–90 cm tall. Stems erect, 1 or few, often apically much branched, rarely in whorls of 3, angled, striate, puberulent. Leaves opposite or sometimes upper leaves alternate; lower leaves dissected, segments narrow; upper leaves undivided; leaf blade linear, 3–6 cm, margin entire. Racemes in panicles; bracts to 1 cm. Pedicel ca. 1 cm, slender, flexuous. Bracteoles 2, needlelike, near apex of pedicel. Calyx 10-ribbed; lobes triangular, wider than long, apex acute to obtuse, inside and margin lanose; sinuses angled. Corolla yellow to purple; tube ca. 3 mm; lobes orbicular-obovate, ca. 5 mm, subequal, apex rounded. Filaments ± flattened; fertile anther locules oblong-ovate, ca. 2.5 mm, densely comose at base; sterile anther locules clavate, ca. 1 mm, stipitate. Capsule globose, glabrous, almost as long as or shorter than persistent calyx. Style persistent. Fl. Jun–Jul, fr. Sep.

Grassland on mountain slopes, fields; 1600–2100 m. Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hunan, Jiangxi, Sichuan, Yunnan [Bhutan, India, Indonesia (Java), Laos, Malaysia, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sikkim; Africa].

2. *Sopubia lasiocarpa* P. C. Tsoong, Fl. Reipubl. Popularis Sin. 67(2): 405. 1979.

毛果短冠草 mao guo duan guan cao

Annuals, to 38 cm tall. Stems erect, basally terete, apically branched and ribbed, with short crisp hairs. Leaves opposite or upper subalternate; leaf blade linear, to 5 cm × 1.5 mm, adaxially hispidulous, margin revolute; midrib abaxially raised. Racemes sparsely flowered, in a large panicle; lower bracts longer than flowers, upper ones shorter. Pedicel 1.5–2 mm, pubescent. Bracteoles 2, near base of calyx. Calyx ca. 1.5 mm, 10-veined; lobes narrowly triangular, subequal, outside hispidulous, inside glabrous, apex acute; fruiting calyx inflated to 3.5 × 5 mm, shallowly

campanulate, outside hispidulous, sinuses rounded. Corolla purplish, ca. 1 cm; tube ca. 7 mm; lobes obovate, subequal. Ovary and style hispidulous; stigmas 2. Capsule 5–6 mm, much longer than persistent calyx, hispidulous, apex deeply concave, to 2/5 of capsule length. Seed dark brown, irregularly oblong. Fl. and fr. Sep.

- Moist grassland; 100–400 m. Hunan, Jiangsu, Zhejiang.

