
狗肝菜属 gou gan cai shu

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Diapedium K. D. Koenig.

Herbs, diffuse, annual, biennial, or perennial [or sometimes shrubs], with cystoliths; young stems ± 6-angled in cross-section. Leaves petiolate; leaf blade margin entire or subapinate. Inflorescences of cymes in leaf axils or in terminal spikelike thyrses or panicles of thyrses. Flowers subtended by an involucre of several pairs of bracteoles (= cymule); outermost pair equal or unequal in size, usually concealing inner pair(s), calyx, and base of corolla. Calyx deeply 5-lobed; lobes narrow, equal, apex acute. Corolla pink, resupinate 180° by torsion of tube; tube slender, widened apically, limb 2-lipped; lower lip (in upper position) 3-lobed, lobes ascending coelohial in bud; upper lip (in lower position) entire or emarginate. Stamens 2, exerted from mouth of corolla; anthers 2-theceous; thecae unequally inserted to superposed, base muticous; staminodes absent. Stigma 2-cleft. Capsule subpilose or stipitate, 2–4-seeded; retinacula present; placenta with retinacula separating elastically and rising from inner capsule wall at dehiscence. Seeds lenticular, papillate, lacking trichomes.

About 100 species: tropical and temperate regions worldwide; four species (two endemic) in China.

1a. Outer bracteoles oblong-lanceolate to oblong-lanceolate, greater than 2 × as long as wide.

1b. Outer bracteoles elliptic, subcircular, or obovate, less than 2 × as long as wide.

2a. Outer bracteoles oblong-lanceolate, 5–7 mm, sparsely covered with white or grayish trichomes or glabrescent; corolla ca. 0.5 cm .............................. 1. D. bupleuroides

2b. Outer bracteoles oblanceolate, 10–14 mm, densely covered with yellow trichomes; corolla ca. 1.5 cm ......... 2. D. induta

Flowers axillary, each of 1 or 2 cymes; outermost pair equal or unequal, base of corolla and staminal filaments, generally concealed. Stamens 2, exserted from mouth of corolla; anthers 2-theceous; thecae unequally inserted to superposed, base muticous; staminodes absent. Stigma 2-cleft. Capsule subpilose or stipitate, 2–4-seeded; retinacula present; placenta with retinacula separating elastically and rising from inner capsule wall at dehiscence. Seeds lenticular, papillate, lacking trichomes.

1. Dicliptera bupleuroides Nees in Wallich, Pl. Asiatic Rar. 3: 111. 1832.


3. Dicliptera elegans (Linnaeus) K. D. Koenig & Sims; Dicliptera burmannii Nees; D. roxburghiana Nees.

Herbs to 50 cm tall. Stems sulcate, pubescent. Petiole 5–10 mm; leaf blade ovate, 3.5–7 × 1.8–2.8 cm, glabrous or with 2-celled trichomes, secondary veins 4 or 5 on each side of mid-vein, base cuneate, margin subentire, apex acute. Inflorescences axillary and subseesile or sometimes terminal and shortly pedunculate, cymes, many flowered; peduncle 3–5 mm bracts lanceolate, 2–3 mm; outer bracteoles green, oblong-lanceolate, 5–7 × ca. 2 mm, abaxially pubescent, base cuneate, margin entire and ciliate, apex mucronate; inner bracteoles green with yellowish margin, lanceolate, ca. 4 × 1.5 mm. Calyx ca. 3 mm; lobes subulate, pubescent. Corolla ca. 5 mm, outside pubescent; lip in lower position orbicular, ca. 1.5 × 1.5 mm; lip in upper position oblong, ca. 2 × 1 mm, 3-lobe, lobes ovate and ca. 0.3 × 0.3 mm. Staminal filaments ca. 2 mm; anther thecae spherical. Ovary pilose at tip; style ca. 3 mm. Capsule ca. 3 mm, pilose at tip. Seeds ovate in outline, ca. 1 mm, pubescent. Fl. May–Aug; fr. Dec–Jun. 2n = 26.

Roadsides, forests, shady places; 800–1900 m. Guizhou, Sichuan, Yunnan [Cambodia, India, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam].


Herbs to 60 cm tall. Stems sulcate, densely yellow hirsute especially along sulcae. Petiole 5–12 mm, yellow tomentose; leaf blade ovate, 3–4 × 1.5–2.5 cm, both surfaces yellow tomentose especially along veins, secondary veins 3–5 on each side of midvein, base broadly cuneate to subrounded, margin entire, apex acute. Inflorescences axillary, each of 1 or 2 cymes; peduncule 2–3 mm, yellow hirsute; bracts linear-subulate, ca. 5 mm, tomentose; outer bracteoles dark green, oblong-lanceolate, 10–14 × 2–4 mm, unequal, rigid, both surfaces tomentose especially toward base, base cuneate, apex acute and shortly mucronate; inner bracteoles linear-lanceolate, 8–10 mm, pilose, apex acuminate. Pedicel ca. 1 mm. Calyx ca. 5 mm; lobes linear, pilose, apex acute. Corolla pink, ca. 1.5 cm, pilose; tube basally slender, white pilose; lip in lower position ca. 4 mm, 2-lobe; lip in upper position ca. 3 mm, 3-lobe, lobes ovate. Staminal filaments ca. 6 mm, glabrous; anther thecae spherical, ca. 1 mm. Ovary minutely pilose; style ca. 1.2 cm, minutely pilose. Capsule ca. 4 mm, pilose. Seeds ovate in outline, ca. 2 mm, pubescent. Fl. Aug–Sep; fr. Oct–Nov.

Wastelands; 400–700 m. Yunnan.


on each side of midvein and abaxially slightly prominent, base
cuneate to attenuate and decurrent onto petiole, margin entire or
slightly sinuate, apex shortly acuminate to acute. Inflorescences
each of (1–)3 or 4 pedunculate cymes from upper leaf axils, 1–4
cm; inflorescence bracts subulate to linear to oblanceolate to
obovate, 3–7.5 × 0.3–1 mm; peduncle 2–5 mm; cymules usu-
ally 3 or 4 per cyme; outer bracteoles elliptic to obovate, 5–13 ×
3–8 mm, unequal, abaxially puberulent, 3-veined, margin cili-
ate, apex acute and mucronate; inner bracteoles linear, ca. 5
mm, abaxially hirsute, apex acuminate. Pedicel 0.5–3 mm,
puberulent. Calyx ca. 5 mm; lobes linear, equal, margin hir-
sute, apex acuminate. Corolla pale purple, 1–1.2 cm, outside
puberulent; tube slender, ca. 6 mm, ca. 1.5 mm wide; limb 2-
lipped; lip in lower position ovate, ca. 5 × 3 mm, apex entire;
lip in upper position oblong, ca. 4 × 1.5 mm, shallowly 3-lobed.
Stamens inserted near apex of corolla tube; filaments ca. 4 mm,
glabrous; thecae spherical, ca. 1.2 mm in diam., parallel. Ovary
pilose at tip; style ca. 1.4 cm. Capsule broadly ellipsoid, ca. 6
mm, puberulent, 4-seeded, apex apiculate. Seeds circular in out-
line, ca. 2 mm in diam., covered with apically barbed papillae.

Streamsides, trailsides; below 1800 m. Fujian, Guangdong, Guang-
xi, Guizhou, Hainan, Sichuan, Taiwan, Yunnan [Bangladesh, India,
Vietnam].

This species is used medicinally.


优雅狗肝菜 you ya gou gan cai

*Dicliptera mairei* Benoist.

Herbs 60–120 cm tall. Stems erect, branched, slender, sul-
cate, sparsely pubescent. Petiole 0.5–1.5 cm, sulcate, pubescent;
leaf blade ovate to ovate-lanceolate, 4–8 × 2–5 cm, abaxially
pale gray and sparsely pubescent, adaxially green, densely cov-
ered with cystoliths, and densely brownish pilose on midveins
but otherwise sparsely pubescent with few large-celled white
trichomes, secondary veins 4–6 on each side of midvein, base
broadly cuneate and decurrent onto petiole, margin entire or
sinuate, apex acuminate. Inflorescences axillary, each of 2 or
3 cymes; peduncle to 7 cm, white tomentose; inflorescence
bracts linear, 7–10 × 1–2 mm, puberulent; cymules 3–6 per
cyme; outer bracteoles subcircular to obovate, 1.5–2 × 1–1.5
mm, unequal, abaxially with cystoliths and pilose, palmately
3- or 5-veined, base rounded, apex mucronate; inner bracteoles
linear-lanceolate, 5–7 × ca. 1 mm, abaxially puberulent, apex
acuminate. Pedicel 0.5–2 mm. Calyx 6–7 mm; lobes linear-lan-
ceolate, outside puberulent, apex acuminate. Corolla pinkish
red, ca. 1.8 cm, outside pubescent; tube slender; limb 2-lipped.
Staminal filaments ca. 5 mm, glabrous; anther thecae spherical,
ca. 1 mm, inserted at slightly different levels. Ovary slightly pi-
lose. Capsule ca. 6 mm, light yellow pilose. Seeds light brown,
circular in outline, ca. 1.5 × 1.5 mm, compressed, yellowish

*Dicliptera mairei* was incorrectly reduced to *D. induta* by C. C.

Hu (FRPS 70: 238. 2002).