

7. DIPHYLLEIA Michaux, Fl. Bor.-Amer. 1: 203, t. 19–20. 1803.

山荷叶属 shan he ye shu

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Herbs, perennial, with thickened creeping rhizomes and coarse fibrous roots; rhizomes formed of distinct annual increments, producing stout 2(or 3)-leaved stem separating at base in autumn along marked articulation, leaving broad bowl-like excavation on rhizome. Leaves alternate; blade petiolate and peltate [except in *Diphylleia grayi* F. Schmidt, in which upper leaf sessile or subsessile and attached at sinus], transversely oblong to reniform-orbicular, pubescent or sparsely pubescent with unicellular hairs, palmately veined with main veins connected by secondary reticulate veins, 2-cleft with divisions shallowly to coarsely lobed and prominently dentate. Inflorescence terminal, pedunculate, usually a many-flowered cyme or umbel; branches glabrous or pubescent. Flowers pedicellate, actinomorphic, 3-merous. Sepals 6 in 2(or 3) whorls, white or pale green. Petals 6 in 2 whorls, white. Stamens opposite petals; anthers basifixed, longitudinally dehiscent; thecae separating from connective and ultimately attached only at apex; pollen conspicuously spiny. Ovary ellipsoid, 1-loculed; placentation parietal near base of ovary; ovules 2–11, anatropous; style absent or short and thickened; stigma peltate, cristate. Fruit berries, dark blue or purplish black, glaucous, globose or broadly ellipsoid. Seeds reddish brown, oblong to ovoid. $n = 6$.

Three species: discontinuous distribution in E Asia and SE North America; one species (endemic) in China.

1. *Diphylleia sinensis* H. L. Li, J. Arnold Arbor. 28: 443. 1947.

南方山荷叶 nan fang shan he ye

Diphylleia cymosa Michaux subsp. *sinensis* (H. L. Li) T. Shimizu.

Plants 40–80 cm tall. Petiole of lower leaf 7–20 cm, of upper leaf (2.5–)6–13 cm; blade peltate, reniform or reniform-orbicular to transversely oblong, 19–40 × 20–46 cm in lower leaf and 6.5–31 × 19–42 cm in upper leaf, abaxially whitish pubescent, sparsely so or subglabrous adaxially, 2-cleft with divisions undulate or shallowly 3–6-lobed, margin irregularly dentate with teeth apiculate. Inflorescence 4.2–35 cm including peduncle, 3.5–10 cm in diam.; branches pubescent or glabrescent in fruit; peduncle 3.5–28 cm, solitary, occasionally bifurcate. Pedicel 0.4–3.7 cm. Flowers (8–)15–51. Outer sepals lanceolate to linear-lanceolate, 2.3–3.5 × 0.7–1.2 mm; inner sepals broadly elliptic to subcircular, 4–4.5 × 3.8–4 mm. Outer petals narrowly to broadly obovate, 5–8 × 2.5–5 mm; inner petals narrowly elliptic to narrowly obovate, 5.5–8 × 2.5–3.5 mm. Stamens ca. 4 mm; laminar filaments 1.7–2 mm; anthers ca. 2 × 0.6 mm. Ovary ellipsoid, 3–4 × 1.8–2 mm; ovules 5–11; style absent or represented by slight constriction at summit of ovary; stigma ca. 0.3 × 1 mm. Berry dark blue or purplish black, slightly pruinose, globose to broadly ellipsoid, 1–1.5 cm × 6–10 mm. Seeds 2–4, ovoid. Fl. May–Jun, fr. Jul–Aug. $2n = 12^*$.

• Moist deciduous and coniferous forests, thickets, bamboo thickets; 1900–3700 m. Gansu, Hubei, Shaanxi, Sichuan, Yunnan.

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