

2. HEPTACODIUM Rehder in Sargent, Pl. Wilson. 2: 617. 1916.

七子花属 qi zi hua shu

Shrubs or small trees, deciduous. Winter buds with several pairs of scales. Leaves opposite, entire, triplinerved, stipulate. Inflorescence a terminal panicle composed of numerous capitula. Capitulum of a single sessile whorl of opposite 3-flowered cymes and a terminal bud of bracts and a whorl often not developed. Capitulum with 2 pairs of involucrel decussate bracts and 12 bracts (bracts of each cyme spatulate and often fused together, bracts of secondary flowers smaller and often missing). Involucrel bracts ovate and persistent in fruit, glabrous to sericeous, longer and covering bracts and ovaries. Sepals 5, slightly protruding from involucre. Corolla tubular-funnelform; tube strongly curved at base with a nectary inside and shallowly gibbous, 5-lobed and regular. Stamens 5, exerted; filaments inserted at middle of corolla tube. Ovary 3-locular, 2 locules with numerous sterile ovules, remaining locule with 1 fertile ovule. Stigmas discoid. Fruit a leathery achene, cylindrical, crowned with a persistent and enlarged calyx. Achene 1-seeded, pericarp membranous; endosperm fleshy.

- One species: China.

1. *Heptacodium miconioides* Rehder in Sargent, Pl. Wilson. 2: 618. 1916.

七子花 qi zi hua

Heptacodium jasminoides Airy Shaw.

Shrubs, to 7 m tall. Young branches red-brown, sparsely pubescent. Petiole ca. 10 mm; leaf blade ovate, 8–15 × 5–9 cm, leathery, abaxially sparsely pubescent on veins, base obtuse to subcordate, apex acuminate to long acuminate. Inflorescence a subpyramidal panicle of capitula, 5–15 × 5–9 cm. Capitulum with involucrel bracts and bracts variously shaped, unequal in size, pair of involucrel bracts often emarginate. Flowers white, fragrant. Sepals 2–2.5 mm, equaling ovary at anthesis. Style hairy. Corolla 1–1.5 cm, densely adpressed hairy. Achene ca. 10 mm, protruding from involucre, striate, hirsute-sericeous; persistent calyx with spreading sepals to 7–10 mm; seeds 5–6 mm. Fl. Jul–Sep, fr. Sep–Nov.

- Cliffs, scrub, forests; 600–1000 m. Anhui, Hubei, Zhejiang.

This is a rare species.

Fl. China 19: 617–618. 2011.