

16. HERPETOSPERMUM Wallich ex J. D. Hooker in Bentham & J. D. Hooker,
Gen. Pl. 1: 834. 1867.

波棱瓜属 bo leng gua shu

Lu Anmin (路安民 Lu An-ming); Charles Jeffrey

Herbs, climbing, annual. Roots spreading. Tendrils simple. Plants dioecious. Male flowers in raceme or rarely solitary; calyx tube elongate, funnel-shaped; segments subulate; corolla broadly campanulate, 5-partite; segments entire; stamens 3, included in calyx tube; filaments free; anthers connate, one 1-celled, two 2-celled; anther cells linear, conduplicate; rudimentary ovary subulate. Female flowers solitary; calyx and corolla as in male flowers; staminodes 3, subulate or absent; ovary oblong, 3-locular, 4–6 ovules in each locule, pendulous; filaments filiform, elongate; stigmas 3, dilated. Fruit broadly oblong, 3-valved from apex nearly to base. Seeds pendulous, oblong or obovate, compressed, smooth, margins obtuse.

One species: Bhutan, SW China, India, Nepal.

1. *Herpetospermum pedunculatum* (Seringe) C. B. Clarke, J.
Linn. Soc., Bot. 15: 115. 1876.

波棱瓜 bo leng gua

Bryonia pedunculata Seringe in Candolle, Prodr. 3: 306.
1828; *Herpetospermum caudigerum* Wallich ex Chakravarty;
H. grandiflorum Cogniaux.

Stem and branches slender, puberulent at first. Petiole 4–
8(–10) cm; leaf blade ovate-cordate, 6–12 × 4–9 cm, membra-
nous, both surfaces scabrous, yellow-brown pubescent at first,
base cordate, margin dentate, apex caudate-acuminate. Male

flowers usually in a raceme or solitary; inflorescence 12–40 cm,
5–10-flowered, puberulent; calyx tube 20–25 cm, apex 8–9 mm
in diam.; segments linear, 8–9 mm; corolla yellow; segments
elliptic, 20–22 × 12–15 mm; filaments 2–3 mm; anthers 5–6
mm; rudimentary ovary subulate, 4–5 mm. Female flowers: ca-
lyx tube narrowly tubular, ca. 15 mm, densely yellow pubes-
cent; segments linear, ca. 9 mm; corolla segments oblong, 20–
25 × 15–20 mm; ovary oblong-ovoid, densely yellow hispid.
Fruit 7–8 × 3–4 cm, fibrous. Seeds pale gray, oblong, ca. 12 × 5
mm, 2–3 mm thick, base truncate. Fl. and fr. Jun–Oct.

Thickets and forest margins on mountain slopes; 2300–2500 m.
Xizang, Yunnan [Bhutan, India, Nepal].

Fl. China 19: 33–34. 2011.