

10. LEONTICE Linnaeus, Sp. Pl. 1: 312. 1753.

囊果草属 nang guo cao shu

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Leontopetalon Miller.

Herbs, perennial, with tubers, glabrous. Stem erect, herbaceous, unbranched. Cauline leaves usually 2(–5), alternate, 2–3 × pinnately compound, stipulate. Raceme simple, terminal, bracteate. Flowers yellow. Sepals 6, petaloid. Petals 6, yellow, nectary-like, much shorter than sepals. Stamens distinct. Pistil simple; carpels 1; ovary inflated, not stipitate or shortly so; ovules 2–4; placentation basal. Achene globose, utricle-like, indehiscent or irregularly lacerate on top of fruit. Seeds in fruit, usually 2; aril absent.

About three or four species: north temperate zone; one species in China.

1. *Leontice incerta* Pallas, Reise Russ. Reich. 3: 726. 1776.

囊果草 nang guo cao

Leontice vesicaria Willdenow.

Herbs, 5–20 cm tall. Tuber ovoid, globose, or irregular, 2–5 cm in diam. Stem pale brown, terete, shiny at base, with few lanceolate scales at base. Cauline leaves 2; petiole 3–5 cm, sheathed at base; leaf blade 2 or 3 × pinnately compound, pinnales abaxially yellowish green, adaxially deep green, elliptic or obovate, entire, abaxially inconspicuously veined, adaxially 3–5-basinerved, both surfaces glabrous, entire. Raceme terminal, 4–6 cm; peduncle 2–2.4 cm; bracts suborbicular or broadly ovate, apex blunt, fleshy. Pedicel to 1.2 cm, stout, glabrous. Sepals yellow, bluish purple spotted on outside, elliptic or ovate, longer than petals. Petals obovate, base clawed. Stamens distinct; anthers valved. Carpel 1; ovules 2–4. Achene pale purple in upper part, subglobose, large, to 2.5–4.5 cm in diam., bladderlike inflated, indehiscent, with conspicuous reticulate veins. Seeds 2, black-brown. Fl. Apr, fr. May.

Slopes of hills in desert regions, *Haloxylon* forests; ca. 600 m. Xinjiang [Kazakhstan].

Fl. China 19: 800. 2011.